

U.S. discounts test ban treaty

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan is not ready to conclude a nuclear test ban treaty with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev when they meet in Iceland next week, the White House said Friday. "The Soviet side" are continuing to insist on an immediate and complete test ban. We need to reduce weapons first and then we'll talk about a test ban," presidential spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters. A Soviet spokesman said in Moscow Friday that the Soviet Union believes the leaders could reach an outline accord on a test ban at their meeting Oct. 11 and 12 (See page 8). Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Boris Fyadyshev told a news conference a test ban agreement could be achieved easily if the political will existed. "As we see it, it is fully possible for the leaders at Reykjavik to give directions to work out an agreement on a complete cessation of nuclear testing," he said.

Gorbachev warns U.S. over SDI, page 8

Jordan Times

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جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

Iraqi envoy leaves with message

AMMAN (Petra) — An envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein wound up a two-day visit to Jordan and left for home on Friday. The envoy, Interior Minister Saadoun Shaker, delivered a verbal message to the King from President Hussein on Arab affairs and issues of common interest. In a statement upon departure, Mr. Shaker said that he was carrying a reply message to the Iraqi leader. Mr. Shaker said he had come primarily to enquire about the King's health following two operations the monarch underwent in London and to wish him well. On Thursday, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai conferred at his office with Mr. Shaker. During the meeting they discussed developing Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation and discussed a number of issues of common interest. Iraq's Ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jassem Hussein attended the meeting.

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Share market trading boosted

AMMAN (Petra) — Trading in Amman Financial Market (AFM) has improved during the first nine months of this year, an AFM spokesman said Friday. The spokesman said the number of shares traded was 4,034,124 and that the volume of trade was JD 6,563,930 and the number of contracts was 5,095 during the period. These figures, the spokesman said, represent increases of 218 per cent, 178 per cent and 76 per cent respectively over figures for the same period last year.

Israelis order theatre closure

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The Israeli army ordered a 24-hour closure of a Palestinian theatre in East Jerusalem on Friday, the Palestine Press Association reported. The news agency, which monitors news in the occupied territories, quoted military officials as saying the theatre was shut down for reasons of "state security and public welfare." The closure was the second in less than two months.

U.S. Senate agrees on arms grants

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate on Thursday agreed to give the White House authority to offer grants instead of loans to underwrite U.S. weapons sales to other countries — a move that could save foreign governments billions of dollars. It rejected 55 to 43 a move to strike from a 1987 omnibus spending bill the new provision, which would fundamentally change the arms sales programme. Countries that could be affected include Turkey, Greece, Spain, Portugal, the Philippines, Oman and Botswana among others.

Shevardnadze: Afghan pullout to begin soon

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met with top Mexican officials Friday after arriving from Canada, where he told reporters that a previously announced partial Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan would begin within days. "We would like to see our boys back home as soon as possible," Mr. Shevardnadze told a news conference before flying to Mexico City, where he arrived late Thursday night. "In a few days, the actual withdrawal of Soviet troops will begin," the Soviet foreign minister said.

Soviet embassy escapes missile hit

BEIRUT (R) — Guards at the Soviet embassy on Friday defused a rocket set to be fired at the embassy compound in west Beirut, security sources said. They said the rocket was discovered by the guards after they exchanged machinegun fire with unidentified gunmen at about 4 a.m. Local residents said there was a brief clash after the gunmen opened fire from a passing car. There were no reports of casualties.

INSIDE

- * Iranian athletes request asylum in Iraq, page 2
- * National Music Conservatory opens, page 3
- * Britain's nuclear future takes centre-stage, page 4
- * Our education system needs new blood, says Marwan Mughniyah, page 5
- * Saudi Arabia to meet S. Korea in Aisad soccer finals, page 6
- * Poor countries want more credit at less onerous terms, page 7
- * Gorbachev warns U.S. over SDI, page 8

Gandhi says India is facing dramatic wave of terrorism

Punjab police chief escapes attack one day after premier is shot at

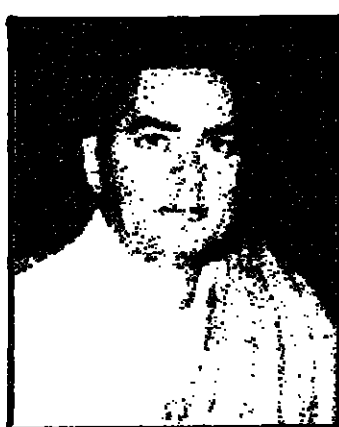
NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who survived an assassination attempt on Thursday, said Friday India was facing a period of increasingly dramatic terrorist attacks.

Mr. Gandhi was commenting on an attempt early on Friday by Sikh extremist gunmen to kill Punjab police chief Julio Ribeiro, one day after he was himself shot at during a prayer meeting in New Delhi by a man identified as a clean-shaven Sikh.

"The more successful we are

against the terrorists the more dramatic attacks they will try to gain ground," Mr. Gandhi said during a visit to the southern city of Hyderabad. "This is a phase the country will have to go through."

He did not say which terrorists he was referring to, but Indian media identified Mr. Gandhi's



Rajiv Gandhi

would-be assassin as a man with an apparently Sikh name from Punjab where extremists are fighting for a separate Sikh homeland.

Indian news agencies as well as the state-run radio and television identified the man alleged to have fired shots at Mr. Gandhi as Karamjit Singh, 26, from the Punjab town of Sangrur.

(Continued on page 5)

King condemns attempt on Gandhi's life

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expressing condemnation of the attempt on his life on Thursday.

The King said the "criminal act was designed to deprive the great Indian nation of Mr. Gandhi's courageous leadership entrusted to him by the Indian people following the death of Mrs. Indira Gandhi who also fell as a result of another criminal action."

King Hussein said he was condemning the criminal action in his own name and on behalf of the Jordanian government and people, and wished Mr. Gandhi continued health and success in the leadership of his nation.

Congress quashes Reagan veto on sanctions; blacks hail Senate vote

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. Congress has dragged a reluctant President Ronald Reagan along and imposed stiff sanctions against South Africa, putting the United States in the forefront of countries trying to force Pretoria to end apartheid.

By 78 votes to 21, the Senate added its voice on Thursday to that of the House of Representatives which on Monday rejected Mr. Reagan's veto and approved sanctions over his objections.

Mr. Reagan expressed regret at the congressional action but he conceded the vote "underscores that America — and that means all of us — opposes apartheid, a malevolent and archaic system totally alien to our ideas."

He appealed to the white-dominated government in Pretoria "to act with courage and good sense" to avert a crisis.

Thursday's move by the Senate was the climax of more than two years of argument between Congress and the administration over how to persuade South Africa to end its system of

apartheid, or racial segregation. It was the first time Congress had overturned a Reagan veto on a foreign policy issue, although it has in the past dealt the president severe foreign policy blows such as cutting off U.S. military aid to Nicaraguan rebels in 1984.

The administration must now carry out a policy it believes to be wrong. For years Mr. Reagan has opposed what he calls punitive economic sanctions against Pretoria, arguing they would hurt blacks most and make the government less open to reform.

The U.S. Senate action was warmly welcomed by black leaders inside and outside South Africa.

South African whites were virtually united in condemning the move and Foreign Minister P. W. Botha blamed it on emotion and distorted news reporting in the United States.

The sanctions include a ban on imports of South African steel, iron, coal, uranium, textiles and agricultural produce, an end to new U.S. investment and loans and a cut in air links.

Mr. Botha told South African state television that a wave of emotion caused by distorted U.S. media reports lay behind the Senate vote.

He said it would take time to convince Americans "that we don't hate blacks here, that the government is indeed committed to power-sharing (with blacks)."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the black head of the Anglican church in Southern Africa, said: "This is not an anti-South African action, it is anti-apartheid and anti-injustice."

Other black leaders acknowledged that blacks' jobs would be affected. Saths Cooper of the Azanian People's Organisation said: "But you don't toy around with an evil like apartheid."

The white liberal opposition Progressive Federal Party voiced disappointment over the Senate's action but urged President P.W. Botha to speed apartheid reforms.

At the United Nations, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe hailed the action by the U.S. Senate.

Poll shows increasing number of hardliners in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Israelis are setting increasingly hard-line terms for peace with the Arabs, despite Prime Minister Shimon Peres' attempts to project a more conciliatory image of Israel, an opinion poll has shown.

The Jerusalem Post poll found a growing majority rejected territorial compromise "in exchange for peace and would not negotiate with the PLO even if it recognised Israel and renounced violence."

The survey also showed that an increasing minority of Israelis say they support action to drive Arabs out of the Israeli-occupied West Bank, a position associated with right-wing extremists.

The findings contrasted sharply with recent polls showing Mr. Peres currently enjoyed record public approval and his Labour Party was far ahead of Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc. They

Peres and Shamir remain apart on 'rotation' issues

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Friday failed to finalise arrangements for their job switch on Oct. 14 but spokesmen said the hand-over would go ahead as scheduled.

"We met, we agreed on several issues and we are going to continue meeting after the (Jewish new year) holidays," Mr. Peres told newsmen after a 45-minute meeting with Mr. Shamir.

The new year began at sundown Friday and people return to work on Monday.

Although no time limit was set, it was generally believed that Friday's talks would settle last-minute difficulties between Mr. Peres' Labour Party and Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc.

They have ruled Israel together, backed by several smaller groups, since September 1984 in an uneasy coalition born of inconclusive general elections.

Spokesmen for both men stressed there was no crisis and they expected differences would be settled after one or two more meetings.

Mr. Peres declined to say what difficulties remained. Mr. Shamir asked Reuters one serious obstacle was the future of former Finance and Justice Minister

Yitzhak Modai who was forced to resign in July after insulting Mr. Peres.

Mr. Modai is a political ally of Mr. Shamir who wants to bring him back into the cabinet as justice minister.

The foreign minister's aides said Mr. Peres refused to work again with Mr. Modai but that Mr. Shamir insisted he was entitled to appoint whoever he wanted to the cabinet.

The aides also said the two men were close to resolving a conflict over a speech due to be delivered by Mr. Peres next week to parliament summing up his term in office.

"Shamir would like to look at the speech beforehand to prevent misunderstandings and unpleasantness in the future," one of his aides said.

The foreign minister's supporters fear Mr. Peres' speech will commit Israel to steps in Middle East peace efforts unacceptable to the hardline Likud and then ask for a vote of confidence.

Likud would then be faced with approving the speech and committing itself to moves it opposes, such as an international peace conference, or rejecting it and bringing down the

(Continued on page 5)

Rifai: Jordan's move is not towards ties with Israel or political shift

PLO opposition to W. Bank mayors is baseless

Reopening of banks is aimed at helping people

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai has strongly denied reports that Jordan's new administrative and economic procedures for the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip meant a step towards the normalisation of the Kingdom's ties with Israel and said Jordan's political stance towards the Palestine question remained unchanged.

Mr. Rifai, in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo's correspondent in Amman, Fouad Na'im, said the Kingdom's new measures in the West Bank, including the appointment of three Arab mayors to West Bank cities, the reopening of Jordanian banks in the West Bank and the national five-year development plan for the West



Zaid Rifai

Bank and Gaza Strip, were taken to strengthen the steadfastness of people living in the occupied territories and maintain the Arab identity of the occupied land.

Mr. Rifai revealed that the government was assisting the Arab Bank to reopen its branches in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and that any similar steps would be welcomed by Jordan to offer the people living under Israeli occupation facilities for investment, saving and loans to help them improve their economic situation.

Mr. Rifai, in the interview which was aired by Radio Monte Carlo on Thursday evening, expressed hope that other Arab countries would shoulder their responsibility, together with Jordan, to maintain the Arab identity of the occupied territories and strengthen the steadfastness of the Palestinians living there to enable them to face Israel's policies of expansion and uprooting people from their land.

Mr. Rifai, in his first public statement after the occupation authorities appointed Arab mayors to the cities of Ramallah, Hebron and Al Bireh last week, described the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) opposition to the appointments as a new step, which differed in concept from what the organisation had earlier agreed to with Jordan.

Following are the questions and answers in Mr. Rifai's interview with Radio Monte Carlo: Question: Mr. Prime Minister, the recent Jordanian administrative and economic measures in the occupied lands have drawn criticism revolving on the issue that Jordan is normalising ties with Israel through dealing with the present status quo in the West

(Continued on page 5)

U.N. chief: Security Council should set basis for Iran-Iraq settlement

UNITED NATIONS (R) — U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Friday he was willing to try to end the Iran-Iraq war but said he felt the Security Council would have to establish a basis on which both sides could cooperate with the United Nations.

He was speaking at the start of a new round of council debate on the war, now in its seventh year. The renewed debate was requested by a group of seven Arab states, including Iraq.

He said six resolutions already had been adopted by the council "without satisfactory implementation."

"Iraq has stated that it is willing to comply with all Iran has indicated that it is not prepared to accept them, on the ground that the council has not dealt with Iran's fundamental grievances," Mr. Perez de Cuellar said.

He was alluding to claims by Iran, which boycotts the council, that the 15-nation body had failed to brand Iraq as the "aggressor."

Recalling his previous fruitless efforts to halt the fighting, the secretary general said: "Nevertheless, I would, of course, undertake new assessment if the council so wishes."

"I feel, however, in view of repeated requests from many quarters that I take new initiatives to end the war, that it has become increasingly necessary for the Security Council to establish a basis upon which both sides will find it possible to extend their cooperation to the United Nations in dealing with the threat to regional and international peace and security and to promote the prospects for a settlement."

The council session was requested by Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and North Yemen, which together form a committee set up by the Arab League in March 1984 to follow the progress of the war.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, addressing the council, said Iran was preparing to invade Iraq once again to implement what it considered a "divine duty to liberate the Iraqi people."

"The council should not and must not remain silent or adopt a neutral attitude vis-a-vis... a country which accepts the mandate of the council and believes in the Charter of the United Nations and... a country which rejects your mandate, rejects your resolutions, treats the (U.N.) organisation with disrespect."

He called on the council to intensify its efforts to bring about peace and assume responsibility for implementing the resolutions,

Iraqis hit ship; Rafsanjani rejects U.N. call amid reports of Mahdi plan

BAGHDAD (AP) — The Maltese supertanker Free Enterprise was attacked by Iraqi warplanes Friday shortly after it had lifted a full load of Iranian crude oil at the Kharg Island oil terminal, Gulf-based marine salvage executives reported Friday.

The 254,000-ton tanker sustained a hole in one of the tanks on its starboard side, but had required no assistance and was able to continue its trip, said the executives.

The Free Enterprise was the second Iranian-chartered tanker to be crippled by Iraqi missiles near Kharg Island in three days, and the fifth of the 14-unit Iranian fleet since Sept. 5.

An Iraqi military spokesman, quoted by Baghdad Radio, had earlier announced Iraqi warplanes struck at a "large maritime target" off Iran's gulf coast at 1:30 p.m.

The Cypriot-flag Angel, another Iranian-chartered supertanker was hit in an Iraqi air raid Wednesday night as it was heading for Kharg. A fire broke out on board and was extinguished by the crew, but the vessel was unable to load and turned back.

Iran's powerful parliament speaker, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, on Friday rejected United Nations appeals to end the war, Tehran Radio reported.

Speaking to worshippers in a sermon at the weekly prayers at Tehran University, Mr. Rafsanjani urged more Iranians to volunteer for a long-expected "final offensive" against Iraq, and reiterated Tehran's demands for ending the fighting — the ouster of the Iraqi government, compensation for war damage and the repatriation of Iraqi "refugees" in Iran.

In Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Mahdi confirmed reports on Thursday that he was planning to mediate for a settlement of the Iran-Iraq war.

He said his country had "a new plan" for that settlement, and the plan "has chances for positive progress."

It would not be useful to divulge that plan for the time being, he added.

Diplomatic sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, told AP Mr. Mahdi outlined that peace plan to Saudi King Fahd during talks on Wednesday.

They said that Mr. Mahdi was confident of success on that score because he had a personal relationship with Ayatollah Khomeini, while Sudan enjoyed strong ties with Iraq.

Mr. Mahdi was planning to visit Tehran later this month.

Amal men continue Rashidiyeh assault

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Shi'ite Muslim Amal militiamen used heavy artillery to pound a Palestinian refugee camp in South Lebanon on Friday as fighting erupted there for a fourth day, security sources said.

The sources said the shelling came amid mortar and machine-gun battles which flared shortly before noon at the Rashidiyeh camp just south of the ancient port of Tyre.

The camp, with 20,000 Palestinian residents, lies in an area under the overall control of the Amal militia.

The fighting marked a day-old Syrian-mediated truce announced in Beirut by Syrian military observers, Amal and Palestinian officials.

The observers are supervising a three-month-old deployment of

Syrian troops to crack down on anarchy in the western sector of the capital. They also monitor arrangements to keep the peace at Beirut refugee camps repeatedly shaken by battles between Amal and Palestinian fighters.

At least three people, including an Amal militiaman, have been killed and more than 15 wounded since Tuesday in the Rashidiyeh clashes, apparently sparked by an ambush of an Amal patrol near the camp.

Amal militiamen ringed the camp and manned more than a dozen roadblocks in Tyre on Friday as 2,000 people demonstrated in the mainly Shi'ite city demonstrated in support of Amal.

The marchers chanted slogans against Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Palestinians have said at least 15 people, including five children and seven women, were killed in fighting on Wednesday.

AP adds from Riyadh: The government of Saudi Arabia on Friday appealed for an end to the attacks by Lebanese militias on Palestinian camps in the south of Lebanon, warning that such actions "only serve the lurking Israeli enemy."

The statement, read over Riyadh Radio, expressed "deep regret over the repeated assaults on the Palestinian refugee camps in South Lebanon, including the Rashidiyeh camp which is being shelled by different weapons from some Lebanese armed elements, leading to tens (of people) killed and injured."

The Saudi statement did not mention Amal by name.

Chirac and King Hassan continue talks in Rabat

RABAT (Agencies) — French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac continued his talks with King Hassan II and his ministers on Friday on the second day of his official visit to Morocco.

Ministers said the discussions concentrated on the Middle East, on the joint struggle against international guerrilla violence, and on French efforts to reconcile Morocco with its eastern neighbour, Algeria.

The two North African neighbours have had no relations since the Algerian-backed Polisario guerrilla movement launched a "war of liberation" in the Moroccan-annexed Western Sahara in 1975.

Spokesmen for both delegations refused to make any comment on the talks.

Mr. Chirac, who dined with King Hassan in the royal palace Thursday night, was the guest of honour at an official luncheon given Friday by Morocco's newly appointed Prime Minister Azizeddine Laraki.

Mr. Chirac, on his third visit to North Africa in six months, held a

first one-hour private talk with the king soon after he arrived for a two-day official visit to Morocco Thursday night.

French sources said Mr. Chirac, who visited Algiers last month, would pass on Algeria's informal reply to an earlier verbal message from the king about the Western Sahara conflict.

But Moroccan government sources minimised the role France could play as an intermediary between Algiers and Rabat. Morocco and Algeria had not needed intermediaries previously to start direct, secret negotiations which have achieved nothing so far, the sources said.

Mr. Chirac and King Hassan were also expected to discuss the Middle East and exchange views on the state of guerrilla attacks which has affected France in recent weeks.

At a news conference in Paris, Mr. Chirac's chief spokesman, Denis Baudouin, said on Thursday the Middle East and the Arab World be "at the centre of the discussions."

U.S. calls on kidnappers to make contact

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration, frustrated by its inability to win freedom for American hostages held in Lebanon, on Friday publicly urged the kidnappers to make contact with U.S. authorities.

The appeal followed delivery to an international news agency in Beirut of a video cassette containing recorded statements by hostages Terry Anderson and David Jacobson and a typewritten statement issued in the name of the "Islamic Jihad." (See page 2).

Officials said the appeal, made at the White House and State Department, did not represent new policy but sought to emphasise the U.S. desire to be able to talk directly with the kidnappers about release of the hostages and their welfare.

"Although the kidnappers have demonstrated that they can communicate with news agencies by letter, telephone or videotape, they have shown no inclination to talk directly with us," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

Emergency funds allocated for W. Bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government is allocating emergency funds for social welfare, health and educational and training projects in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

A statement issued here on Thursday said that Prime Minister Zaid Rifai decided to allocate the funds that would enable the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs to launch projects that could not be delayed until the implementation of the Kingdom's five-year development plan for the occupied areas.

The Jordanian News Agency, which carried the statement, did not disclose the amount of

allocated funds but said emergency funding would continue until the next budget year that begins on Jan. 1, when permanent budget allocations would be made.

Earlier, Mr. Rifai instructed the concerned authorities to resume paying the salaries of striking lawyers in the West Bank in solidarity with the Palestinians. Some 280 lawyers and judges have refused to deal with the Israeli occupation authorities and courts since Israel occupied the region in the 1967 war. Mr. Rifai ordered that JD 180,000 be paid to the lawyers to help support their steadfastness.

High-level panel to seek remedies to unemployment

AMMAN (Petra) — The government is forming a special committee to look into prospects for absorbing unemployed people in the Kingdom and is undertaking measures particularly to help find employment for engineers, physicians and other skilled people, according to a statement issued here on Thursday.

The statement said that Prime Minister Zaid Rifai had decided to form a committee comprising several ministries and organisations to help find work for unemployed graduates of schools, community colleges and universities in view of their rising number in the Kingdom.

The committee would study prospects for working out a national plan for offering training to the graduates and help absorb the largest possible number of unemployed people in private and public businesses.

The committee would develop skills of job seekers and prepare

them to undertake jobs required by the local labour market.

In particular the committee will look into prospects for absorbing engineers, doctors and others with special skills and will reorganise the labour-absorption process in the agriculture sector to help increase production, the statement said.

The statement added that the committee would comprise the ministers of education, labour and social development, public works, industry and trade, finance, higher education, health and planning. In addition to the presidents of the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, the University of Science and Technology, Mar'ta University and the directors of the Civil Service Commission and the Institute of Public Administration.

The committee, the statement added, should report to the prime minister on its findings within a month from the time of its formation.

Nuseibeh leads delegation to attend IPU meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Hazem Nuseibeh, head of Jordan's parliamentary delegation to the 76th session of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU), left for Argentina on Friday to take part in the IPU meeting due to be open there on Monday.

Dr. Nuseibeh said the IPU meeting would discuss contributions of world parliaments to developing a new international charter for peace, proposed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to the United Nations. The United Nations approved the proposal and formed a committee under the chairmanship of Prince Hassan and grouping international

figures. The committee was charged with drawing up an executive framework for the charter.

Dr. Nuseibeh said he would call on parliamentarians to adopt the charter. He said he would talk about a number of major political issues, including the Palestine question, Israeli practices and violations of international charters and laws.

Jordan's delegation to the IPU conference includes Dr. Mousa Abu Ghosh, member of the Lower House of Parliament, and Mr. Hani Kheir, secretary general of Parliament, and Mr. Fayed Shawabkeh from the Parliament general secretariat.

Ministry to build 31 new schools, expand 86 others

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education plans to build schools for students in the compulsory stage throughout the Kingdom during the 1986-1990 five-year plan with the help of a loan from the World Bank.

A ministry spokesman said the project involved building 31 schools that could accommodate 29,000 students and equipping 86 other schools with facilities to accommodate 60,900 male and female students.

The project is part of the ministry's sixth plan and is aimed

at meeting the growing demand on education in the compulsory stage, according to the spokesman.

He added that once the project was completed 35 per cent of the rented buildings that currently serve as schools would be disposed off.

According to the spokesman, the sixth project entails building additional 648 classes within the compound of existing schools to increase their capacity by 25,720 students.

IATA meeting concludes

AMMAN (Petra) — A regional committee set up by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has concluded a two-day meeting in Amman to discuss issues pertaining to the transportation of passengers and problems encountered in air freight operations at airports in the Near East and North Africa region.

The committee adopted a number of recommendations which, a final statement said, were aimed at overcoming problems and difficulties encountered in transportation procedures at airports. The committee said that

a special team had been set up to discuss outstanding issues and submit a report on the matter.

Mr. Akel Biltaji, assistant director of Airia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, said the meeting was devoted to discussing facilities at regional airports and means of benefiting from experiences of advanced nations in this respect.

Participants in the meeting included IATA representatives together with a group of officials and experts from several airlines operating in the Middle East region.

TCC board postpones review of long-distance phone charges

AMMAN (J.T.) — A scheduled meeting on Wednesday for the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Board of Directors to discuss reducing the charges of international telephone calls at off peak hours was postponed until the near future, informed sources told the Jordan Times.

Wednesday's meeting was designed to discuss the board's final stand on reducing all

international telephone calls made on Fridays and public holidays as well as between set hours of the day.

The proposed cuts in prices were a 50 per cent reduction in all long distance calls made during public holidays and Fridays and a total of 20 per cent reduction on all calls made during off peak hours each day.



Her Majesty Queen Noor and Her Royal Highness Princess Basma attend a violin concert of the U.S. group, Young Strings in Action, at the Royal Cultural Centre on Friday on the occasion of the opening of the National Music Conservatory under Her Majesty's patronage (Petra photo)

Queen takes part in celebrations marking 'Week of Arab Child'

Her Majesty donates equipment and toys to organisations in East and West Banks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Thursday joined the children of Jordan in their celebrations on the occasion of the "Week of the Arab Child," which was on its second day, held under the theme of "Children in the service of their society and environment."

Her Majesty first visited Al Khansa' Centre in Al Hashemi Al Janoubi where Her Majesty met the children of the centre, and inspected its various sections that will provide children with services to include a library, play equipment, and a computer club, in addition to a vocational training centre for mothers and a centre for the eradication of illiteracy.

The Queen also reviewed the centre's work plan and its future programmes, one of which will be the construction of a traffic school to acquaint children with traffic regulations and road safety.

The Queen was received at Al Khansa' Centre by Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and the president and members of the General Federation of Jordanian Women.

Her Majesty then visited Al Amal Centre for the Deaf and Mute in the town of Al Qweisimeh, where she receives by minister of labour and social development and the mayor of Qweisimeh. Her Majesty toured the centre, which houses 140 children aged between six and 13, and inspected the educational methods applied at the centre. Her Majesty stressed the importance of providing special attention to, and care for, the handicapped.

The Queen later visited the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), where a ceremony was held under her patronage. The president of the GUVS Executive Board, Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, delivered a speech praising the support that His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor extend to social voluntary work in Jordan.

The Queen then met members of the union's Executive Board and members of the preparatory committee for the "Day of the Child," which comprises representatives of the various



Her Majesty Queen Noor on Thursday visits the Al Khansa' Centre at Al Hashemi Al Janoubi (Petra photo)



ministries and children's institutions.

They discussed the efforts being made towards child care by different organisations throughout the Kingdom, and the Queen lauded the role that these organisations play, and asserted the need for a plan of action to include projects through which the aspirations for the future of the child in Jordan can be realised.

During the ceremony, the Queen distributed 30 computers specialised for children's nurseries to representatives of the governorates of Jerusalem, Nablus and Hebron. Earlier, the GUVS distributed 40 computers to societies that care for the child in the East Bank.

The Queen also distributed

equipment and toys, needed to equip 40 nurseries, to representatives of Tafleh, Ma'an and Mafraq.

At the end of the ceremony, Mrs. In'am Mufti, director of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, announced that upon Queen Noor's instructions, the Noor Al Hussein Foundation was to donate audio-visual equipment and wheelchairs for the handicapped to children's centres in the West Bank.

In addition, the foundation will donate communication units for teaching the deaf and mute to Al Amal Centre, and equipment and training material for teaching children traffic and road safety to Al Khansa' Centre.

National Music Conservatory opens

45 youngsters to receive training on violin

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, the National Music Conservatory was inaugurated on Friday, at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman. The Young Strings in Action, a group of 17 young American violinists, performed at the ceremony, which also marked the launching of the conservatory's first project, the Violin Programme.

Friday's concert by the Young Strings in Action included pieces by Mozart, Vivaldi and Liszt. The young violinists performed each piece with captivating proficiency and were boisterously applauded by a delighted audience. The audience, which included Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, a number of Cabinet members and senior government officials, members of the diplomatic community and Board of Trustees of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation was treated to the premiere performance of "Suite for Noor," written especially for the occasion by American composer Robert Washburn as a tribute to Her Majesty and as a gift from the children of the U.S. to the children of Jordan.

During their stay in Jordan, the Young Strings in Action will be sharing their love of music with the Jordanian people at various schools, hospitals and child centres. They will give a public performance Saturday at the Royal Cultural Centre. Tickets are available at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The National Music Conservatory was established by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation which is sponsoring this violin project in cooperation with the Jordan Society which was established in the U.S. in 1980 by Her Majesty.

On Sunday, the conservatory will open its doors to 45 young Jordanian violin students. These students will receive instruction in the basic musical and technical skills of violin playing from two specially trained Jordanian teachers, Mr. Fuad Malas and Mr. Muhammad Fadl, who have received intensive instructions in the U.S. in a special violin teaching method, the Rolland Pedagogy, developed by Mrs. Sheila

Johnson, director of the Young Strings in Action, stresses proper balance and control through freedom of body movement and enjoyable learning environments.

Fifty violins, a piano, and a library of music and classroom materials form the physical basis of the conservatory, whose ultimate goal is to offer instruction to its students in a variety of Eastern and Western musical instruments. It is hoped that within a year of the conservatory's opening many of the Jordanian students will have reached entry performance levels and would be performing at various national and international gatherings, press statement issued by the conservatory said.

Jordan is back on winter time

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Thursday midnight switched back to winter time with the clocks turned back 60 minutes.

Adopting summer time in Jordan between April and October each year is bound to boost trade and economic activity and save energy consumption, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Dr. Khatib said the procedure was followed by European and American countries to take advantage of summer sunlight and save electricity and fuel.

The measure helps Jordan to have a standard time, facilitating its communications with the outside world, the minister said.

He said that his ministry was preparing a statistical report on the benefits of adopting summer and winter time in the country.

During last year, the first time that Jordan switched to summer and winter times after a break of seven years, the Kingdom saved over JD 1 million in fuel expenses needed to generate electricity, according to figures released by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

No effect on traffic

Interviewed by Petra, Brigadier Ahmad Abdul Su'oud, assistant director of the Public Security Department (PSD), said that adopting summer time in Jordan had not reduced traffic congestion on roads and city approaches.

For most people the only means for reducing congestion and improving traffic lies with the improvement of road conditions, Brig. Abdul Su'oud said. He said if arrangements could be made for students, office workers and business and others to have different timings to start work in the morning and return home in the afternoon traffic conditions would improve tremendously because rush hours would not bring in so much density on roads. The traffic department is conducting a study on the difference between summer and winter time with regard to road congestion and accidents, he added.

4 killed and 149 injured on roads last week

AMMAN (Petra) — Road accidents in Jordan claimed the lives of four people and injured a total of 149 others during last week, according to the traffic department.

A statement issued by the department on Thursday said that between Sept. 24 and Sept. 30, 245 accidents occurred on Jordanian roads.

The governorate of Amman registered the highest number of accidents totally 130, followed by Zarqa (35) and Irbid (25), the statement said. It said 396 vehicles were involved in these accidents, which also registered a drop by 11.5 per cent over the number of accidents in the previous week.

Spell of rain comes to an end

By Elin Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The cold front which affected Jordan over the past two days bringing in unusual amounts of rainfall at this time of the year ended Friday, the Meteorological Department said. The department expects the weather to return to normal with a gradual rise in temperatures and predicts clear skies and warmer days but relatively cool evenings.

A spokesman for the department told the Jordan Times that weather in Amman and the suburbs was expected to improve, and the capital's temperature, which registered 20 degrees Centigrade on Friday, was bound to rise to 23 degrees on Saturday.

Up to 50 millimetres of rain fell in Jordan during the past two days in some areas, but in Amman received only up to 40 millimetres, the spokesman said. The rains, brought in as a result of a cold front coming from the Soviet Union, through Syria, fell in all regions, with larger amounts on high areas, the spokesman added.

He said the amounts of rain were unprecedented for Jordan during the first half of October in 60 years. The rains flooded streets in a number of towns and blocked the roads, prompting the Public Security Department (PSD) to issue warnings to residents of low-lying areas to move to safer ground. Warnings were issued in particular to those living in the wadis of Ruseifa, Zarqa and Sukhne north-east of Amman.

A PSD spokesman said that due to the continuous fall of rain roads linking Sukhne, Tawahin Al Udwan and Thumaseibeh were closed. The spokesman warned drivers to be more careful on these roads.

The rain was reported to have disrupted traffic in Zarqa where excavations had been carried out for laying sewers and streets were blocked by earth and stones. Municipal teams assisted by police and civil defence squads were called in to reopen roads and bring the situation back to normal.

Acting Zarqa Governor Mohammad Al Dabbai urged all residents alongside the Zarqa stream to take extra precautions and, if need be, to move to higher ground for safety.

On Friday municipal teams in Zarqa were opening culverts and streets blocked by mud and stones and pumping out water that flooded schools in Zarqa and Ruseifa.

In Salt, rainwater was reported to have flooded a number of homes and the civil defence was called in to carry out rescue operations and to reopen blocked streets and culverts.

But the rain has also had good effects on the soil and underground water reserves in the Kingdom.

Agricultural experts at the Ministry of Agriculture said the rain was particularly useful for fruit and forest trees.

Mr. Lutfi Huweidi, director of agricultural services at the ministry, told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the amounts of rain in the past season were poor and did not help the fruit trees to give good yields.

The stretch of unusual hot weather in the second part of September, he said, has had harmful effect on fruit trees, specially olive trees, but the rain which fell has increased the humidity in the soil increasing the prospect of a bumper harvest.

Sensitive portrayals of traditional architecture go on display today

By Salamah B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Janet Venn-Brown is one of the few living artists who can be described today as the Arab World's "modern Orientalists."

Ms. Brown, whose exhibition opens today at the Royal Cultural Centre, has on show 24 oil paintings depicting her sensitive perception of the traditional architecture of Jordan and Palestine.

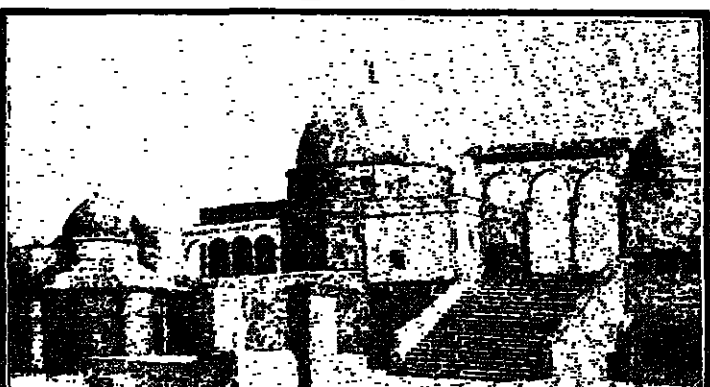
"I'm trying to create pictures and, at the same time, making a documentation of an aspect of Arab culture that is going to disappear," she says. "It also gives me satisfaction to do something positive to counter the bad publicity the Arabs get in the West."

In recent years, the Australian-born artist has travelled to Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, North Yemen, Qans, Syria and the United Arab Emirates. The outcome of her travels in the Arab World — paintings that not only won the admiration of people in these countries but also fascinated European audiences.

Her current exhibition is the result of a one-month trip she made last year to Jordan and the occupied West Bank with the help of the Ministry of Tourism.

However, most of the work was done in Rome.

"When I go to paint in another



One of Janet Venn-Brown's 24 oil paintings that go on display at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) from Saturday

country... once I have chosen a subject, I sit in the street and create a small painting using poster paints. When I return (to Rome), I make a proper painting," she told the Jordan Times in an interview. "Although I don't include people in my paintings, my experience with them is remembered... and it is there."

The artist's paintings on Jordan and the West Bank were exhibited in Rome recently. "They loved these paintings," she said of Italian people. "Those who saw the paintings became very interested in the Arab World."

The first question Europeans ask the artist about her journeys to the Arab World is "how did you manage to make it," she said demonstrating one of many misadventures about life in the Arab World. "I always had to

explain to them there were no serious difficulties involved."

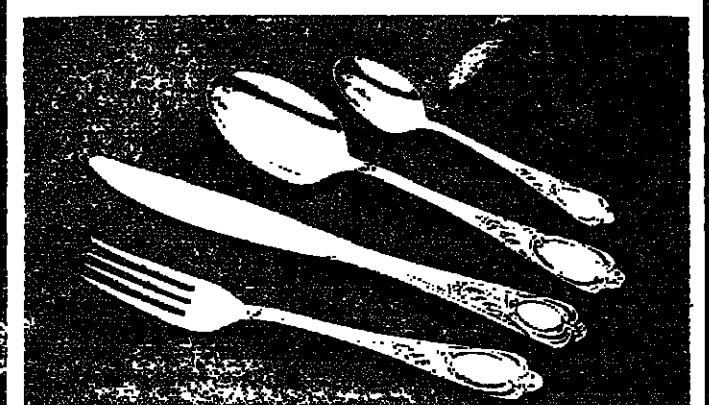
Explaining her work, the artist said she was mainly interested in urban landscapes, mainly the juxtaposition of shapes — solids and geometrical forms. "It's a pity this kind of painting is a dying art."

Her collection of Jordan includes paintings she did in downtown Amman, Jabal Jofeh, Madaba and Salt.

On her paintings, an Italian art critic wrote: "These records of the artist's journeys through Arab cities, like leaves from an album, have drifted into memories and the painting goes and magic blues transform them into reality: a fairy tale seems to have come to life; the enchantment of silence seems to have replaced the jungle of day-to-day banalities."

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Israeli propaganda

THE Israeli information media launched an attack on Al Ra'i Arabic daily for its editorial, calling for a strong Arab information service that can counter Israeli propaganda campaigns. The editorial published on the eve of a visit to Damascus by a delegation from the Jordanian Journalists Association urged the governments of both Arab countries to take measures for organising Arab action that can help in the effort for regaining Arab rights and re-establishing peace in the region. The Israeli media, which attacked the Jordanian daily, resorted to sowing seeds of differences by publishing statements with which Tel Aviv hopes to cause rifts between the two neighbouring states. Both Jordan and Syria believe in the common Arab struggle for regaining Arab land and establishing peace, and the Jordanian press reflects the national feelings and displays the truth about the situation, and also calls for building stronger bridges of understanding and cooperation among Arab countries for the sake of countering the false and hostile propaganda of the Israeli enemy. Despite the attacks on the Jordanian press, the latter will no doubt continue to adhere to its national role, and would not spare efforts for exposing the aggressive attitude of the Israeli enemy.

Al Dustour: Jordan supports U.N.

FOREIGN Minister Taher Al Masri, addressing the United Nations General Assembly in New York, pointed to the importance of the world organisation in handling world issues and ending disputes and conflicts. Delivering Jordan's views to the world assembly, Mr. Masri said that Jordan believes strongly in the United Nations charter and its principles and objectives, and cooperates with it fully for the achievement of its noble goals. He said that Jordan has been calling on the international community to help implement United Nations resolutions on the Middle East and end the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jordan, he said, wants the United Nations to organise an international conference for resolving the Palestine problem on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. Such implementation would enhance the role and the stand of the United Nations organisation, and give more credit to its principles and its objectives. For this reason, the United Nations organisation bears serious responsibility towards maintaining world peace and, although it proved incapable so far to resolve the Palestine question, hope still exists for the prospect of serious efforts towards holding an international conference and the achievement of peace.

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Israelis reject peace

IT is useful for the Arabs to direct their attention to those elements that are hostile to the cause of peace. A public opinion poll published by the Israeli daily, The Jerusalem Post, found that the majority of Israelis reject the idea of negotiations with the PLO and refuse to return any Arab land to the original Palestinian owners even if the PLO recognised the Jewish state. This result means that the Arab countries' orientation towards peace does not draw a favourable response from the Israelis who want to keep the Arab land under their rule. The Israelis were prompted to take this stand and express their rejection of peace with the Arabs in view of the prevailing Arab situation and the weakness which characterises the Arab Nation. The Arabs should by now understand that the Israelis would respect their views and accept peace only when they, the Arabs are strong and united and when they are able to embark on measures to regain their lost territory. The opinion poll has revealed a serious matter to the world public opinion because it showed the world that the Israelis were not looking towards peace unless they are forced to and under pressure. This is clearly a genuine reflection of the true nature of Zionism and displays the aggressive attitude of the Israeli people.

Al Dustour: Solving unemployment

DECISION taken by the prime minister yesterday concerning the employment of Jordanians represent a very important development because they clearly reflect the government's growing concern over the future of many unemployed graduates and their adverse effect on the national economy. The country has been facing the problem of unemployed people for some time and the graduates are increasing in number every year without finding jobs that can earn them decent living. This situation should not be allowed to continue because it will definitely have negative impact on the society as a whole. Finding employment for the job seekers has become a national demand; and the formation of the ministerial committee to handle this difficult task is probably the first step in this direction. The committee would do well if it embarked on a project for providing special training to the graduates in fields of work required for the development of the country. The majority of graduates lack proper training and therefore, they need assistance so as to embark on actual and useful work for their society. But it should be noted that finding employment for the graduates now does not solve the problem of unemployment in Jordan, and all attention should rather be directed towards eliminating the root causes of the problem.

Sawt Al Shaab: Who is really behind terrorism

TERRORISM is spreading fast around many parts of the world and has been responsible for more and more casualties and victims. Observers of the developments of acts of terrorism have noticed that they originate in the Middle East, benefiting elements hostile to peace in the region. Observers must have noticed also that all acts of terrorism in Europe are benefiting Israel alone, and therefore the Jewish state could be held responsible for them. What has been happening in France, Belgium and Turkey and the escalation of tension in the Arab region are sure to benefit the Israelis who keep pointing to the Arabs as the source of terrorism but trying to escape the blame of the world from their acts of aggression on Lebanon and other Arab states. The French forces working with the United Nations troops in south Lebanon have been moved and reduced in number because of terrorist attacks on their positions, a move that is bound to benefit the Israelis, who continue to launch military operations in South Lebanon, to maintain occupation of Lebanese territory. To achieve their goals, the Zionists spare no effort but resort to any criminal and terrorist action and, therefore, the world has to search for the beneficiaries from all these terrorist actions around the world if it wants to know the real perpetrators.

Britain's nuclear future emerges as central political issue

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

LONDON — A transatlantic war of words over Britain's future as a nuclear power has thrust defence into the forefront of the British political arena and could help revive the flagging fortunes of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

A week after the centrist alliance opposition bloc failed to cement a joint defence platform on which to fight the next general election, the unilateral nuclear disarmament policy of the main opposition Labour Party has come under sustained attack from senior officials in the Reagan administration.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, in an interview screened on British television Monday night, condemned Labour's non-nuclear policy as irresponsible and a threat to the unity of NATO.

His deputy Richard Perle followed up the attack with a series of interviews, hammering home the central point that Labour's promise to scrap Britain's independent nuclear deterrent and close down U.S. nuclear bases would fatally weaken Western defences against the Soviets.

Britain under Thatcher has embarked on its most far-reaching modernisation of its nuclear arsenal for a generation to replace its 128 ageing Polaris missiles with 512 Trident II missiles. Both are submarine-borne intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Both Labour and the alliance are committed to cancelling the 10

billion sterling (\$14.4 billion) programme but last week the centrist bloc of Liberals and Social Democrats failed to agree on whether or how it should be replaced.

Political analysts said the major beneficiary of the alliance defence fiasco would be Thatcher, whose Conservative Party rather than Labour would pick up most disaffected alliance voters.

Weinberger's onslaught, which coincides with Labour's annual conference, was greeted with howls of indignation from senior opposition leaders who denounced it as unwarranted foreign interference in Britain's internal affairs. There has been quiet satisfaction in the Conservative camp.

The point coming over effortlessly is that there is only one party in this country that has a

sound defence policy," said one senior Thatcher aide.

With Labour comfortably ahead of the Conservatives in public opinion polls, the party's aggressive unilateralism has provoked growing concern in Washington and among other NATO allies.

Labour's pledge, renewed last weekend by party leader Neil Kinnock, to withdraw Britain from the protection of the U.S.

nuclear umbrella, has no parallels in European postwar history, according to military historian John Keegan.

Such a move would rob the United States of its most important military foothold on this side of the Atlantic and weaken the resolve of smaller NATO countries to accept nuclear weapons on their soil, he wrote in Monday's right-wing Daily Telegraph.

Kinnock insisted in a series of weekend interviews, that Labour intended to remain loyal to NATO as a non-nuclear nation. He said the elimination of British nuclear weapons would be balanced by the removal of Soviet missiles targeted at Britain.

There were no circumstances under which he would ask the United States to use nuclear weapons to defend Britain.

"If we're not prepared to use the weapon system ourselves, we certainly would not be asking anyone else to jeopardise themselves by the use of that weapon. It would be immoral to do so," he said.

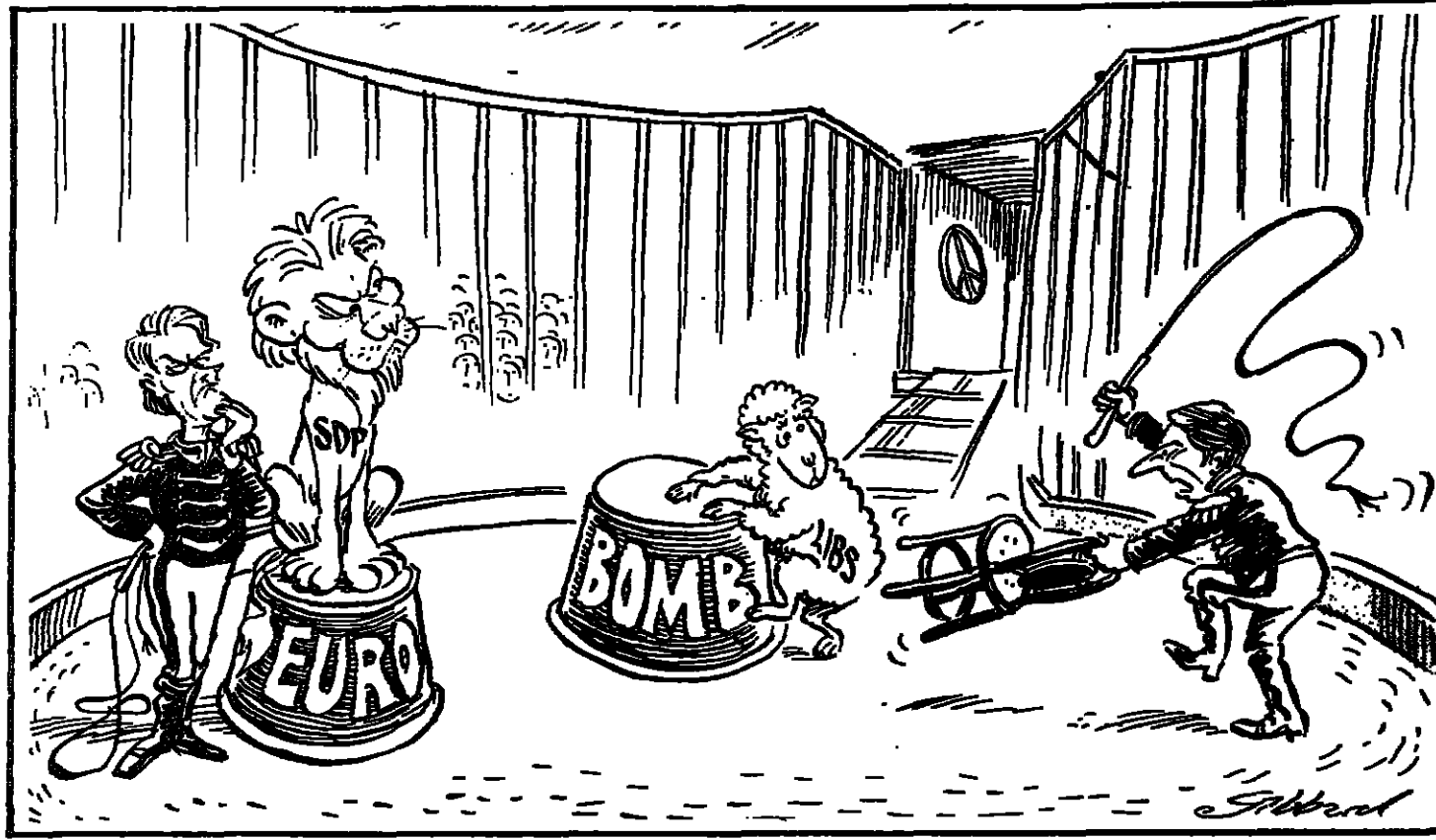
Labour moderates, including its experienced foreign affairs spokesman and elder statesman Dennis Healey, have occasionally expressed misgivings about the wisdom or electoral appeal of such a policy. But they have proved incapable of countering the unilateralist fervour of the party's powerful left-wing.

One Labour parliamentarian on the right of the party said last week defence could yet prove the issue which blocks Kinnock's path to Downing Street.

"We have lumbered into a divisive and unsellable policy," wrote Austin Mitchell in the left-wing New Statesman magazine.

"The nation... knows that to give up weapons with no quid pro quo is naive."

Thatcher must call a general election by spring 1988 but most political analysts expect her to go to the country next year in an attempt to win a third term of office.



Negotiations show Soviet foreign minister comfortable in job

By Andrew Katell
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The Soviet foreign minister was smiling and talkative during talks to resolve the latest U.S.-Soviet crisis. His American counterpart was grim-faced and tight-lipped.

The contrast between Eduard Amvrosievich Shevardnadze and George Shultz surfaced during breaks in their negotiations last week on the case of Nicholas Daniloff, the American journalist charged with espionage in Moscow.

Soviet authorities permitted Daniloff to fly out of Moscow on Monday night. Details of his release apparently were finalised in a three-hour meeting Sunday night at the Soviet mission to the U.N. — the fourth meeting in a week between Shultz and

Shevardnadze. For Shevardnadze, it was the first major test in 15 months on the job. His cool handling of the superpower crisis shows he has settled into the mould of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev: a younger, more open Soviet official less tied to the old way of doing things.

Shevardnadze is 58, has wavy gray hair, blue eyes, wears conservative gray suits like most diplomats and travels frequently with his wife, Nanuli, a journalist.

But for all the elements of style, say diplomats who met him last week, there has been no indication since Shevardnadze took over as foreign minister that he is any more flexible than his 76-year-old predecessor, Andrei A. Gromyko. Shevardnadze's speech to the 41st General Assembly last week stuck to the standard Soviet hard

line, accusing President Ronald Reagan of harbouring "evil designs" with his Star Wars anti-missile system.

Soviet officials describe Shevardnadze as a "workaholic" who skipped diplomatic receptions at the U.N. session to pore over briefing papers, and met with an average of seven foreign leaders a day, including over the weekend.

Diplomats say he was better prepared for meetings during his current visit than for his international diplomatic debut in Helsinki, Finland, in August 1985, or his first U.N. trip three months later. He was in the Finnish capital for the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the East-West accords on security and human rights.

Some Soviet officials see

similarities between Shevardnadze and another Georgian who rose to the top levels of the Kremlin.

"I'll tell you a secret," Soviet foreign ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told a reporter. "Shevardnadze is a workaholic. Stalin was a workaholic, too."

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the British foreign secretary, borrowed a line from Soviet propaganda to describe his meeting with Shevardnadze last Thursday.

"Our productivity has increased significantly. I wondered whether either one of us would deserve to be labelled 'stakhanovites' in the Soviet tradition," Howe said. Stakhanov was a coal miner elevated by Stalin to the status of national hero for his exemplary productivity.

The non-Russian Soviet

Republic of Georgia is known for hot tempers, corruption of government officials and tendency toward illegal free enterprise. Shevardnadze, who headed the police as Georgia's minister of internal affairs from 1965 to 1972, is credited with having cracked down on corruption.

In the late 1970s, he did, however, apparently accede to local demands in retaining a clause in Georgia's constitution naming Georgian as the republic's official language.

Born Jan. 25, 1928, in the village of Mamati near the Black Sea coast west of Tbilisi, Shevardnadze rose through the ranks of the Communist Party in Georgia to become its head in 1972. Two years later, he became a candidate member of the national politburo, which directs the work of the Communist

Party's central committee between plenary meetings. He succeeded Gromyko as foreign minister and became a full member of the politburo on July 2, 1985.

Shevardnadze, who speaks Russian with a Georgian accent, is fond of recalling his Georgian roots to explain his passion on certain issues.

"I'm a man from the south, and we southern people are hot-blooded," a Western diplomat quoted Shevardnadze as saying several times during meetings.

Georgians also are noted for their hospitality. On second meeting, Shevardnadze has greeted several reporters covering his activities with a broad smile and the phrase, "You again? Oh well, we're already old friends."

Iceland meeting a risk for Reagan, analysts say

By Charles Bremner
Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Reagan has taken a calculated risk in agreeing to meet Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev so soon after what amounted to a test of wills between the superpowers over spying charges.

In initial reactions to the surprise announcement that the two leaders will meet in Iceland in less than two weeks, diplomats and analysts said it would be hard for Reagan to approach the talks from a position of strength.

"We have definitely bungled our ways into an unpleasant situation," Michael Freney, a senior analyst at George Washington University's Centre for Strategic and International Studies, told Reuters.

The deal with Moscow to resolve the affair of accused spies Nicholas Daniloff and Gennady Zakharov had weakened Reagan's hand and "put Gorbachev on a roll (in a favourable position)," Freney said.

Reagan's former Secretary of State Alexander Haig said on television that the White House was conducting a schizophrenic policy by letting its eagerness for a summit overcome its desire to take a stand over the detained U.S. journalist.

"Clearly there was a deal," Haig said, referring to the release of Daniloff, a U.S. reporter, in Moscow on Monday and of Zakharov, a Soviet U.N. employee, in New York Tuesday. Both men had been arrested in August on spying charges.

U.S. officials insisted there had been no "swap".

Moscow also agreed to release Yuri Orlov, one of the most prominent human rights activists of the 1970s still serving a sentence, and Washington agreed to discuss Soviet complaints over a U.S. order to expel 25 Soviet personnel at the U.N.

The analysts said Reagan had achieved something of a victory by bringing Gorbachev back to the idea of talks after months of Soviet reluctance to set a date.

But they added that he was effectively accepting an idea for a preparatory meeting in a third country that had been put forward earlier by Gorbachev and rejected by Washington.

The Reagan administration previously had said it saw no reason for such a meeting and the two leaders should meet in the United States this year, as they agreed at their first meeting in Geneva last November.

The analysts also said Moscow was giving Reagan political help by fixing the meeting before key U.S. elections on November 4.

Diplomats said Reagan's belief in the value of personal contact and his ability to communicate with the Soviet leader obviously outweighed concern that Gorbachev had faced him down over Daniloff and enjoyed a psychological advantage.

Reagan said he had established a good personal rapport with Gorbachev in Geneva.

The spy dispute took on a personal note when Reagan assured Gorbachev in a letter that Daniloff was not an agent and the Soviet leader responded publicly by calling him an American spy.

Asked on Monday which side had moved first, Reagan said "they blinked." On Tuesday, he remarked to reporters, "I shouldn't have said that. No comment."

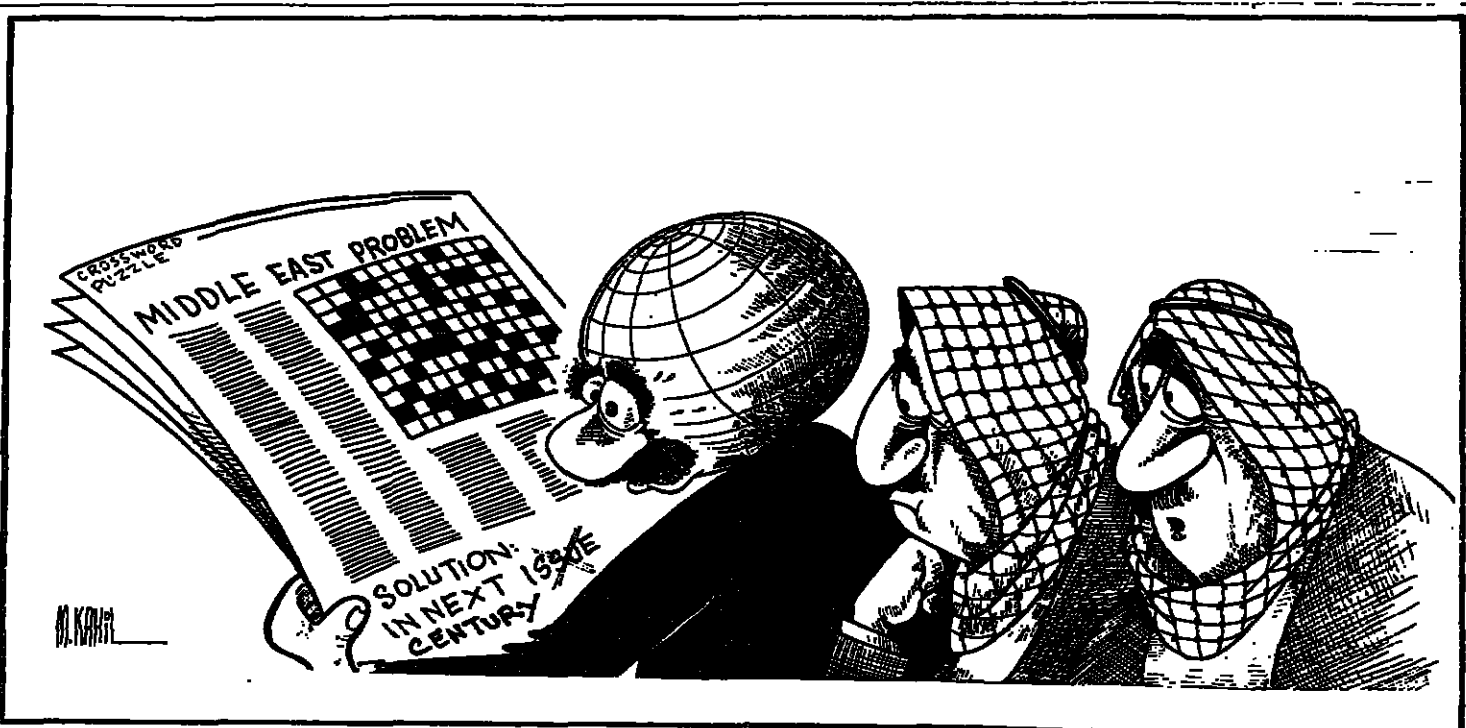
Misgivings over the administration's handling of the Daniloff affair have been voiced by a series of former U.S. officials from both left and right since details of the deal emerged overnight.

Malcolm Toon, U.S. ambassador to Moscow during the administration of President Carter, said: "I don't know how we can say that Gorbachev miscalculated. He wanted to get his man out of New York and that is what he got."

The right-wing Washington Times newspaper commented Tuesday: "Whether the ransom is to be paid in one lump sum now or... in installments at the Reagan-Gorbachev summit, the Daniloff kidnapping appears likely to cost, not the kidnappers, but us."

European diplomats said Reagan's image as a tough bargainer had been tarnished by the resolution of the spy affair.

Secretary of State George Shultz and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze both said on Tuesday that an accord was near on limiting intermediate range nuclear force missiles (INF) in Europe.



Mideast peace: an absurd, trying, necessary search

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The battle of Beirut has been resumed in the streets of Paris. France is the last Western country with an active presence in the Arab World, and whatever lies behind the murderous bombings that have rocked this city since early September, it is of Middle Eastern origin.

The violence set loose in the Middle East 40 years ago draws more and more into it. What began in 1948, in the conflict of Aabs with the new Israeli state, has grown in sinister progress to a struggle of Muslims with Jews, of radicalised Muslims with moderate Muslims, of secular revolutionaries and Islamic integrists with non-Muslims, and with one another as well — and with the United States, and the West. It has been a progression against which diplomacy offered slight shelter. But slight shelter is better than none.

Israel's prime minister, Shimon Peres, and President Ronald Reagan met lately in Washington and afterward made it clear that there would be no international conference on the Middle East. A few days before, in Cairo for talks with Egypt's leaders, Mr. Peres had endorsed the idea of such talks, in principle.

The United States does not want an international conference in which the Soviet Union takes

part. This would be an acceptable position if the United States itself had a policy for improving the situation in the Middle East. It does not.

Its previous policy, to attempt to bring Palestinians and Jordanians into direct talks with Israel, died last spring. It fell victim to the Palestinian movement's incapacity, at present, to make any serious decisions, and to the underlying illusion that the United States is still in a position to bring about a solution convenient to itself and cost-free to Israel.

In the second volume of Henry Kissinger's memoirs, the former U.S. secretary of state describes, with satisfaction, the "expulsion" of the Soviet Union from the Middle East at the time of the 1973 war. He concedes that this was seen in Moscow as a violation of the "code of conduct" agreed between the Nixon administration and Moscow the year before.

Egypt had been a Soviet client; after 1973 it turned to the United States, and America moved to create a bloc of "moderate" Islamic states — Egypt, the Shah's Iran, Saudi Arabia, Jordan — that it expected to dominate the region in the long run, and which Washington intended, under its aegis, to reach a settlement with Israel.

This plan failed. It did so largely because the Soviet Union steadfastly backed Syria, and

Syria, acting out of its own regional power interests, dominated and manipulated radical Palestinian movements and Lebanese factions to block any agreement. Israel then was drawn into a disastrous invasion of Lebanon to crush the PLO, and as a consequence saw its own politics radicalised.

The Soviet Union has constantly pressed for an international conference bringing it back into the region as sponsor of a general settlement. Washington resists this. Yet there is no way now to exclude the Soviet Union from the Middle East, as had been the Kissinger ambition. Russia is already solidly there, sponsoring Syria and the Palestinians, playing its own game, preventing any arrangement in which it does not share.

A shudder went through the Islamic Middle East in 1948, with establishment of the state of Israel. The 1948 war was no simple conflict between two people claiming the same land. It was a collision of two civilisations: a dynamic Western one — the people who created Israel in 1948 supported by the United States and Western Europe, as well as — and another, Islam, which once had been powerful, but which had failed to make a transition into the modern age of technology and

rationalism.

Religion itself, and race, were perhaps the least important of the factors of conflict. The early Zionists were more socialist than religious in inspiration. As the eminent Princeton Arabist, Bernard Lewis, himself a Jew, wrote recently, anti-Semitism in its modern sense was not then a major force among the Arabs. It is a European invention. But it is a force in the Middle East now.

The shock provoked by Israel's foundation demonstrated in the crudest way the modern Islamic states' inability to cope with the challenge of Western industrial civilisation and Western political dynamism. It discredited the assumptions upon which Islamic reformers and modernisers had worked. The events that have followed have been shaped, if not determined, by the distracted, even hysterical, forces set loose then and sustained by the continuing conflict between Israel and its neighbours.

It would be absurd to think that international diplomacy could solve this. But as we in the West are swept closer to the vortex, it is frivolous to abdicate constructive effort, and dangerous to underestimate what could yet come. We have seen Beirut; we have a taste of Beirut now in Paris — "Hell's concave," in Milton's phrase; "the reign of Chaos and old Night" — International Herald Tribune.



Talking straight
Marwan Muasher

Our education system needs new blood

THE controversy over the employment of married women-teachers last week sheds new lights on the Ministry of Education and its general policies. As you might recall, the ministry has reportedly announced that it will no longer appoint married women as teachers, on the grounds that they might not accept to work at distant locations. A few days later, after a public uproar about the decision, the ministry denied it had ever taken such a stand.

I do not want to particularly ponder about the incident, other than to say that it sets a dangerous precedent in Jordan. While several other organisations have similar unwritten laws, discriminating against married women, this is the first time a government institution attempts a move in direct violation of the

constitution.

To guard against such moves in the future, one should always resort to the constitution, instead of employing emotional arguments that might quickly die down. This should be the best method to ensure a logical and legal fight. In this regard, I differ strongly from those who argue that the decision and later the denial of it really did not make much difference, since the ministry can always assign married women to remote areas, only to have these women refuse their assignments anyway. The point at stake here has further implications than the Ministry's decision. Once we allow a government body to violate the constitution, it becomes difficult to draw the line on other matters in the future. The stand against such decisions, therefore, is a matter of principle,

even if it has little immediate and direct effects. We simply cannot afford to have anyone abridge the right of citizens as defined in the constitution.

The subject I do want to talk about today, however, has to do with our education system in general and the policies that dictate this educational system. There is no doubt that Jordan has achieved large quantitative leaps in education, resulting in a definite edge in this regard over other neighbouring countries.

There is also no doubt that several people have started to complain about our education system, and the policies and methodologies that govern that system. There is a general feeling today in Jordan that our education system needs to be re-evaluated, injected with new ideas. There is also a feeling, I am afraid, that the

Ministry of Education is somewhat resistant to major changes within our education system.

The needs that dictated whatever education policies Jordan followed in the fifties and sixties might not be relevant today. There are several issues that Jordan needs to look at, ones that I feel have remained neglected by the ministry for a long time.

One of these issues is co-education. The segregation of students, and to a large extent, teachers in public schools is a policy that has been followed by the ministry ever since its formation. It is a policy that needs to be seriously revised. If we allow our sexes to mix at the university level, there is no excuse for segregation at the secondary and compulsory levels. Education

systems throughout the world have pointed out and proved the advantages of male and female students growing up together. Yet we continue in Jordan to lead a deaf ear to these advantages, while offering no convincing arguments for segregation.

Another subject that has been widely talked about is the methodology used in learning. We still offer our students a system of passive learning, where they are not allowed the chance or taught to think independently. While this system has worked in the past, we cannot afford to stay competitive in the future if we do not foster creativity and independence.

Again, no signs are apparent that the ministry is doing anything about the matter. On the contrary, it seems to be content with the present policies it is pursuing.

The Ministry of Education is the largest ministry in Jordan as far as the number of people it employs or even those it serves. It has grown over the years into a big bureaucracy. As with all bureaucracies, change comes slow. I am not pointing out any new information. Officials are aware of this problem, and attempted solutions in the past have not met great success.

It is obvious, however, that the Ministry of Education needs new visions. Far more important than conducting its daily routines, it is in dire need to inject new blood into our education system, and to re-evaluate our whole curriculum.

This is the basic building block in creating the competitive Jordanian human being we all are so eager to achieve.

Efforts at doing so from within

the ministry have met resistance in the past. In many advanced countries, the Ministry of Education is seen as an executive body, with policy making being done outside it, albeit in co-operation with it. Perhaps that is what is needed in Jordan. We do have a board of education approving education policies, but what we need to do is enrich it with people representing different segments of the community, and allow it a larger say in setting policies rather than approving them.

Education should necessarily carry with it the seeds of change.

In Jordan, it has largely meant the mere continuity of traditional methods and values. We are in dire need of a system that is sensitive to both: continuity and change.

Rifai: Jordan's move not towards relations with Israel

(Continued from page 1)

Bank and the Gaza Strip. How do you evaluate these measures and criticisms?

Answer: Allow me to make some reservations on some of the statements on the question itself. Criticism, or the so-called criticism, directed against some of the measures we took to support the steadfastness of our brethren and families in the West Bank and the occupied territories, is made by specific parties which have political motives. There is no criticism from the people living under the occupation or from the brethren and families who are benefiting from these measures.

These measures aim at normalising ties with Israel as an unacceptable assertion. Our relationship with the West Bank and our people there has not ceased since 1967 and we can say that this relation and — maintaining this relation — was one of the major reasons which allowed the Palestinian people to stick to their land and remain in their villages and townships.

The measures taken are not new and cannot be considered as a political shift; they are a continuation of a policy and procedures we have embarked upon since 1967. I would like to add here that the PLO supported these measures when the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee for the steadfastness of the Palestinian people was exercising its role in an agreeable manner.

The committee was taking the same measures and procedures as we are doing now; we are continuing to implement what we have already started to execute through the committee. In the absence of the committee's role, due to purely financial reasons since a number of Arab countries have failed to honour their financial commitments to the committee, some of its roles were temporarily suspended. Therefore we are shouldering the responsibilities of carrying out plans agreed upon by the committee. Thus, there is no room for changes that what is happening

now comes in the context of normalisation of ties with Israel or surrendering to the status quo or a shift in Jordan's political stand. All what is taking place aims at strengthening the steadfastness of our brethren and people in the occupied territories. We are doing our duty and we shall continue to do so to help the people living there.

Question: Criticism has centred in particular on Jordan's approval of, or Jordan's appointments, of three Palestinian mayors in the occupied cities of Ramallah, Al Bireh and Hebron.

Answer: This issue is also astonishing. Some of those who try to criticise us forget that there are 26 municipal councils in the West Bank run by 26 mayors appointed by Israel. The appointments of the three mayors to Al Bireh, Ramallah and Hebron is not a new action. On the contrary, we consider it as gain since three Arab mayors have been appointed to replace three Israeli army officers who were in charge of running these towns. In this matter, there also is an agreement between Jordan and the PLO on the approach. It is worthwhile to note here that when Zafer Al Masri (who was killed in March) was appointed by the Israeli authorities as mayor of Nablus, the appointment was made with the approval of Jordan and the PLO. It was supposed that during that period Israel would appoint four mayors to West Bank cities — Nablus, Al Bireh, Hebron and Ramallah. What took place was that the Israeli authorities started off with Nablus.

The Israeli action was due to international pressure on the Israeli authorities to end the role of military officials in administering the Arab West Bank towns. Hence, the initiative in this issue did not come from our side, but from the people in these towns. The people there are the ones who decided to form a municipal committee and an elections' list. They got approval from the Israeli authorities and they asked us to endorse the appointment and support it. We agreed to the appointment

because the presence of any Arab mayor is far better than having Israeli officers administer municipalities.

The situation during the period in which Israeli officials administered these cities was really sad and full of sorrow. There were no quality services and no means to upgrade the situation of cities which were neglected. Our brethren from these cities used to call on us and we used to tell them: "We support your endeavour taken by you to regain your cities' administration." This support has no political dimension... we are not seeking an alternative political leadership, and we do not want them to undertake any political role.

We only want them to serve the citizens of these towns.

Therefore, the disagreement in principle to appointing West Bank mayors is not relevant and has been approved, as I told you, by Jordan and the PLO. It is something which is getting blessing and approval and support of all citizens. But if it is meant that the opposition is from the people, then it is not us, nor the PLO nor any other Arab party that has the right to appoint West Bank mayors in the conditions of occupation. All what we can do is support our brethren and to allow them to take care of their own affairs in the right way. As I said, there are 26 municipalities and 112 municipal councils that are also administered by people appointed by the Israeli occupational authorities... why is it said now that the appointment of three mayors is a new policy or it means that Jordan is trying to normalise ties with Israel? We reject such assertions.

Question: The PLO has strongly criticised Jordan's principle of agreeing to the appointments of the three West Bank mayors.

Answer: This is a new stand the PLO has adopted. The PLO stand differs totally from its former stands and its agreements with us and its policies. Also we do not find any interest from our brethren, families and sons in the PLO's rejection of the

appointments.

Question: Mr. Prime Minister, what is the difference between the village leagues — which were strongly opposed by Jordan — and the appointments of Arab West Bank mayors by the Israeli authorities?

Answer: The subject of village leagues is totally different. The league was a movement... a new organisation which had no relationship with municipal presidency or municipal councils... The league was an organisation with special contacts and Jordan has and still opposes it. We do not deal with village leagues. On the contrary, we are proud in the Jordanian government's stand which led to the dissolution of these leagues, rendering them incapable of carrying out any activity.

Question: What about the reopening of the Cairo-Amman branch in Nablus?

Answer: First, we have to remember that Israel closed down the branches of all Jordanian-based banks operating in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in 1967. We were not the ones to close down these branches. Second, the government of Jordan, since 1967 until today, tried to reopen these branches. The subject is not a new subject and we have been trying since 1967 to get approval to reopen the branches of Amman-based banks in the occupied West Bank. The goal behind the reopening of these branches is limited to accept savings and push forward the economic process in the occupied lands through the presence of national financial institutions capable of granting loans and financing projects.

The presence of financial institutions in the West Bank will lead to the reactivation of the West Bank's economy. It will stop further migration of people and it will present an alternative to citizens who have been saving their money with unauthorised money changers. Citizens can also get loans from these institutions instead of having to get loans from Israeli banks and having to pay these banks an annual interest

which might reach 43 per cent.

The government of Jordan has put forward five conditions which should be followed by any Jordanian bank which wishes to reopen its branches in the West Bank. These conditions are:

— Total adherence to all banking legislations applied in Jordan;

— All West Bank branches will be under the control and supervision of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and in accordance with the law of Jordanian banks and relevant orders;

— These banks are not allowed to deal with holders of Israeli citizenship;

— Operations of these banks should be confined to money transfers and credits in foreign currency through their centres in Jordan;

— They should work towards regaining their assets frozen since 1967 and put forward necessary arrangements to guarantee money flow through these branches under all conditions and with the approval of the CBJ.

These conditions, as I said, have been taken since the Israeli occupation authorities closed down the branches in 1967. Numerous Amman-based banks have tried to reopen their branches through getting approval from the Israeli authorities, but in vain. Efforts are continuing — without any exception — by all Jordanian banks which had branches operating in the West Bank.

With all frankness, the American government has acted upon our request and applied pressure on the Israeli government. This led to the Israeli government's approval of reopening a branch of a Jordanian bank as the first step towards the reopening of branches of other Jordanian banks in various parts of the West Bank. The subject, as I said, is confined to strengthening the steadfastness of our brethren in the occupied territories and there is consensus in the West Bank on the importance of reopening these branches.

I have read all what was mentioned by Arabic newspapers published in the West Bank —

some of which, as you know, talk in the name of the PLO and others are financed by the PLO — and there was no opposition against the reopening of the Cairo-Amman Bank's branch in Nablus. On the contrary, the step was welcomed and supported with the hope that all Amman-based banks would reopen branches in the West Bank.

There are efforts now to help the Arab Bank to reopen its branches in the West Bank and the government of Jordan is supporting this initiative. The subject of reopening branches is related to offering services to people there in order to strengthen their steadfastness and to offer them investment, saving and loan facilities away from Israel's financial influence. Israel does not desire these steps. It had closed the branches and pressured led it to agree to the reopening of these branches.

Question: There is great interest on the part of the Jordanian side in the issue of developing the West Bank and there is a five-year development plan for the West Bank and Gaza Strip for the first time... Why now?

Answer: Your question 'why now,' is a valid question. The reason, as I have earlier — and on numerous occasions — stems from our strong concern over the deteriorating situation in the West Bank, in view of the tumbling peace efforts.

Israel's goal is clear and precise and is summarised by its constant efforts to uproot the people from their land and to grab the land after it is emptied of its people. Jordan considers that it is part of its national and regional duties to do its utmost to strengthen the steadfastness of the people under occupation to enable them to face the Israeli policies and goals.

We consider that one cannot maintain the Arab identity of the land if it had no Palestinian people living on it. We consider any effort we exert in order to strengthen their steadfastness as a national and regional duty and we hope that other Arab brothers will participate with us in keeping the Arab identity of the land.

JTV Channel 2 preview

Saturday — Oct. 4, 1986

8:30 You Again
New Comedy Series

Starring: Jack Klugman as Henry Willows
John Stamos as Matt Willows

Henry, divorced seven years ago, now enjoys comfortable, solitary life. He has a son Matt, whom he hasn't heard from since divorce. When father and son are reunited after seven years, you can bet it won't be all roses and champagne!

9:10 Saturday Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film

Sunday — Oct. 5, 1986

8:30 "Carol Burnett"

9:10 Cosmos

A six-hour exploration into the universe; thrilling voyage through the comets, black holes, spiral nebulae and super novae that inhabit our galaxies.

10:20 Dallas

Monday — Oct. 6, 1986

8:30 No Place Like Home

9:10 Edge of Darkness.

This contemporary thriller is the story of how one man, Ronald Craven, a CID officer with the Yorkshire police, is drawn into a mysterious world of espionage and murder after the death of his daughter, who was involved in the anti-nuclear movement.

10:20 Strangers and Brothers

A television series, in 13 parts, spanning the years 1927-1965. The action ranges from the graceful guards of Cambridge to pre-war Berlin across the embattled laws of the great "political" country houses to parliament, Whitehall, and the "corridors of power."

Tuesday — Oct. 7, 1986

8:30 Music Box

9:30 Hilary
New Comedy Series

Hilary is a divorcee with her own flat, which she shares with her talking mynah bird, Arthur. She has a 19-year-old son, Dan, an aspiring musician who tends to drop in only when he needs his washing done or fancies a good meal.

10:20 Dempsey and Makepeace

Wednesday — Oct. 8, 1986

8:30 Three's Company

9:10 Architecture

Documentary

At The Crossroads

This series examines the main themes that are running the world of architecture today. It looks at the work of the architects who are at the centre of current debate, and introduces some of the younger architects who are beginning to make a name for themselves.

9:30 Hitchcock

10:20 Deceptions
New Drama Series

Thursday — Oct. 9, 1986

8:30 Check It Out

9:10 Other World

10:20 Feature Film

Friday — Oct. 10, 1986

9:10 Testimony of 2 Men

10:20 The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Gandhi says India is facing wave of terrorism

(Continued from page 1)

Sikh bodyguards assassinated former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Rajiv's mother, in October 1984.

Mr. Gandhi, his wife Sonia and other national leaders were unhurt in the attack during a memorial service to Mahatma Gandhi.

In the second assassination attempt against a public figure in 24 hours, the Punjab police chief narrowly escaped with his wife when seven Sikh extremists disguised as police burst into a heavily-guarded police camp on the outskirts of Jullundur City.

Mr. Ribeiro, appointed by Mr. Gandhi last March to clean up the northern state, told reporters a bullet grazed his arm as he flung himself to the ground under a hail of gunfire.

"I am all right," he told a news conference not long after he was grazed on the arm by a bullet in the attack.

"This is part of the game," Mr. Ribeiro added. "We will continue to fight terrorism with the same vigour."

The attack on Mr. Ribeiro, carried out by seven Sikh gunmen

disguised as police officers, killed one paramilitary soldier and injured four other security men, police said.

Mr. Ribeiro's wife, Melba, who was walking with him at the time of assault, was hit in the leg by a bullet and hospitalised. Mr. Ribeiro said she was "out of danger."

Police estimated the Sikh gunmen fired 30 to 40 rounds from their automatic weapons before fleeing.

The attack was claimed by the Khalistan Command Force, the most militant of the Sikh extremist groups battling for creation of an independent homeland in Punjab state.

The United News of India said the claim was made in a telephone call to its bureau in Jullundur, 145 kilometres northwest of the Punjab state capital at Chandigarh.

Known as India's "Super Cop," he was given the mandate to end the Sikh terrorist activities that have torn the Punjab for the past four years.

In recent weeks, raids directed by Mr. Ribeiro have resulted in the arrests or deaths of scores of Sikh extremists.

Mr. Ribeiro was quoted by UNI as saying of the attack on him: "We expected such an attack, but that was not the important thing. What is of serious concern to us is that it occurred inside a totally protected area."

In Delhi, several senior security officers, including Mr. Gandhi's cousin Additional Police Commissioner Gautham Kaul, who was responsible for the prime minister's security, have been suspended.

Police have not officially identified Mr. Gandhi's attacker, saying he has repeatedly given them different names, but PTI said he had told police: "I wanted to kill the prime minister."

He readily admitted to having attempted to assassinate Mr. Gandhi and signed a statement in English, Hindi and the Punjabi script Gurmukhi, PTI said.

UNI quoted sources in the Central Bureau of Investigation as saying the assailant was being held in solitary confinement in New Delhi and being interrogated by the CBI and other agencies.

The suspect originally gave his name as Moham Desai, and police said Thursday he was not a Sikh. Singh is a part of every Sikh man's

name, but some Hindus also have the name Singh.

Six people were hurt in the attack on Mr. Gandhi.

Witnesses said the attacker, hidden in a bush close to where the dignitaries sat, fired his home-made revolver twice before security guards reacted.

Some witnesses said Mr. Gandhi himself was the first to realise he was under fire at Raj Ghat, the memorial ground beside the Yamuna River on the outskirts of Delhi where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated.

They said the prime minister pointed out to bodyguards the direction from which the shots were coming after the first two shots were apparently mistaken for motor-scooter backfires.

Mr. Gandhi and the other leaders left the ceremony marking the 117th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, who was killed by an assassin 40 years ago.

Witnesses quoted by newspapers and agencies said that as Mr. Gandhi was leaving the enclosure the gunman loosed off at least one more round before he was seized and dragged from the bush by security guards.

Peres and Shamir remain apart

(Continued from page 1)

government and scuttling the handover.

Mr. Shamir has said he prefers direct negotiations.

Other issues of contention are a demand by Mr. Peres that the "rotation" process between Mr. Shamir and himself resume again for 21-day periods between the end of Mr. Shamir's 25 months in office and the subsequent holding of elections.

Mr. Peres also wants Labour to have an equal voice in economic decisions after he steps down.

Mr. Peres, in an interview published Friday, said new Israeli initiatives were needed for a Middle East settlement.

But Mr. Shamir said the timing was wrong for new peace moves

and there was nothing wrong with the status quo.

"There is enormous reluctance for peace in the Arab World," Mr. Peres contended in the interview with the daily Maariv. "We must overcome the problems by using a great deal of initiative and innovation."

"I would like there to be peace right now. But short of peace, a peace process is the next best thing," he said.

But Mr. Shamir said Mr. Peres' efforts to seek peace talks would not lead to anything. "The Arabs are not ready for territorial compromise," Mr. Shamir said in an interview published by Haaretz. "And in Israel no one will agree to a total withdrawal from the (occupied) territories."

Poll shows increasing hardliners

(Continued from page 1)

suggested Israelis liked Mr. Peres more than his policies.

Questioned on the statement "in peace negotiations with the Arabs, Israel should suggest territorial compromise against suitable security guarantees,"

only 37 per cent of Israelis agreed, while 54 per cent disagreed.

Asked whether they favoured negotiations with the PLO, 43 per cent said yes but 52 per cent said no. When the same question was put three years ago, "yes" votes outnumbered "noes" by 48 to 41 per cent.

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Jordan loses to Philippines

Jordanians pick up more medals in taekwondo competition

SEOUL, South Korea (Agencies) — In men's basketball action at the Asian Games, Jordan went down to the Philippines by the score of 81-83. The victory by the Philippines assured it of a bronze medal, with Jordan placing fourth.

Koreans decisively beat Jordanians for both of the day's gold medals in taekwondo, which is making its debut at these Asian Games.

Lee Ke-Hong outpointed Ahmad Ali 4.0 to minus 1.0 in the middleweight class, and Kang Seung-Woo decisively Tawfik Nwaiser 4.0-0.0 in the heavyweight division of the fighting sport, in which combatants in helmets and chest guards attack each other with punches and whirling kicks.

Tennis star Yoo Jin-Sun won his fourth gold medal Friday, and other South Koreans raced off with gold in three races on the running track as the host nation continued to steal the show at the Asian Games.

As expected, the Koreans took two more gold medals in their native martial art of taekwondo, ending four days of competition with seven golds in eight weight classes.

They also brought their record to six golds in six weight classes in the Japanese sport of judo, beating Japanese opponents in both of Friday's finals. Two more judo golds remain to be decided on Saturday.

Defending champion China, which has built a massive lead in the gold medals race, gained three more golds Friday in track and field events. Three Asian Games track records fell during the day, and one was tied.

China also came from 74-69 behind in the last two minutes and held off a frantic last-minute Korean challenge for a 77-74 victory over the defending champion host team in the men's basketball gold medal game.

But the Koreans, with surprise victories in such sports as field hockey, table tennis, fencing and equestrian events, have overtaken Japan for the no. 2 position, and local fans have started trying to calculate whether they might challenge China too.

The hosts were expecting a major haul of gold on Saturday,

when they have boxers in the finals of all 12 weight divisions. This was the first time in the games that one nation ever had advanced a boxer to every gold medal match.

In tennis, Yoo teamed with Lee Jung-Sun and beat China's Yoo Wei and Zhong Ni 7-6, (7-5), 6-1 for the mixed doubles gold. Yoo already had won golds in the men's singles, doubles and team events.

He became the games' sixth quadruple gold medalist after Chinese gymnast Li Ning and shooters Xu Haifeng and Qu Bo, Japanese swimmer Katsunori Fujiwara and South Korean archer Yang Chang-Hun.

In seven tennis events, the Koreans ended up with four gold medals to China's two and Indonesia's one.

In track, Korean Chang Jae-Keun tied his own Asian Games record of 20.71 seconds, set in qualifying here, as he beat China's Li Feng by 0.26 seconds in the men's 200 metres.

Immediately following that race, 17-year-old Lim Chun-Ae outdistanced China's Yang Lixia down the stretch and won the women's 1,500 metres in 4 minutes, 21.38 seconds, a margin of 0.69 seconds.

Then China's Guan Ping walked in from a 10-kilometre course through Seoul streets and took the women's walking gold medal in 48 minutes, 40 seconds. Teammate Xu Yongjiu was second in 49:50.

China took two more golds, in the women's discus and women's 100-metre hurdles. Hou Xuemei beat teammate Li Xiaohui 59.28 metres to 58.94 in the discus, and also broke Li's Asian Games record of 57.24. Chen Kemei edged Japan's Chizuko Akimoto by one-tenth of a second in the hurdles, winning in 13.78 seconds.

In the day's final race, South Korean Kim Jong-Yoon shattered the games record of 13:53.74 in the men's 5,000 metres. He finished in 13:50.63, and Japan's Masanari Shintaku was second in 13:52.65.

On the judo mat, Park Kyung-Ho of South Korea beat Noriyuki Samboe of Japan for the middleweight gold medal, and Korean Ha Hyung-Zoo defeated Japan's Hitoshi Sugai in the half-heavyweight division.

In qualifying heats for later races, India's track sensation P.T. Usha galloped easily to an Asian Games record in the women's 400 metres, coming closer to her goal of six golds here.

She finished in 52.95 seconds, shattering the old mark of 54.11. The final is scheduled Saturday. Earlier Friday, Usha's time of 11.86 in 100-metre qualifying was bettered by archivist Lydia De Vega of the Philippines, the defending champion, who finished in 11.82. Semifinals and finals in the 100 are scheduled Saturday too.

Usha already has won the 400-metre hurdles and the 200 metres, in which De Vega was third. She still seeks to win gold in

Medal Table after 14 days of the Asian Games			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze
China	85	75	40
Korea	73	50	66
Japan	52	68	67
Iran	5	3	9
Thailand	3	5	10
Philippines	3	4	6
India	3	3	12
Indonesia	1	4	12
Pakistan	1	2	0
Hong Kong	1	1	3
Qatar	1	0	3
Lebanon	1	0	1
Bahrain	1	0	1
Malaysia	0	5	5
Jordan	0	3	1
Iraq	0	3	1
Kuwait	0	1	5
Singapore	0	1	4
Nepal	0	0	4
Oman	0	0	1

the 100, 400 and two relays, a feat that would assure her of the most individual gold medals in these games.

In badminton, two of Saturday's finals will be all-Chinese affairs, one will be an all-South Korean battle and Chinese will meet Koreans for the gold in two other events. The last survivors from other nations were eliminated in the semifinals Friday.

Saudis beat Kuwait in Asiad soccer

SEOUL (R) — Saudi Arabia defeated Kuwait 5-4 on penalty kicks in the semifinals of the Asian Games soccer tournament, winning a place in Sunday's final against hosts South Korea.

The teams were level 2-2 after 90 minutes and 30 minutes of extra time, the Saudis surviving a first half deficit, fighting back in the second period and having a goal disallowed for offside in normal time.

Saudi Arabia, who defeated games champions Iraq on penalties in the quarterfinal, won the tie when Kuwait's Moayed Haddad missed his country's fifth spot kick in the shootout with the Saudis leading 5-4.

Kuwait striker Salah Al-Hasawi established himself as top scorer in the tournament with a deft second half goal, giving him five goals in six matches.

Midfielder Yousuf Al Sowayed grabbed Kuwait's first goal in the 18th minute, shooting against the legs of Saudi Arabian goalkeeper Abdulah Masod after latching onto a chipped pass into the penalty area by Naser Ghanim.

The Saudis led a precarious existence for much of the first half and the stocky goalkeeper, one of the heroes of the marathon 9-8 quarter-final penalty kicks win against Iraq, had to extend himself on several occasions.

Top Saudi striker Majed Mohammed almost equalised in the 39th minute when he hit the crossbar with a header. But the Saudi defence was still hesitant in the tackle and Al-Hasawi had time to control the ball on his body before turning a shot into the hands of Masod.

The second half Saudi recovery began eight minutes into the period when Mohammed Al-Shehrani headed into the top left-hand corner of the net from Mehaisen Al-Dosari's corner kick. A few minutes later Mohammed and Al-Shehrani combined in a one-two in front of

China's Tian Bingyi and Li Yongbo beat Indonesia's Liem Swie King and Ertanto Kurniawan 15-6, 15-9 in a men's doubles semifinal.

In women's doubles, China's Lin Ying and Guan Weizhen beat Kimiko Jimnai and Sumiko Kitada of Japan 15-2, 15-1, and South Korea's Kim Yun-Ja and Yoo Sang-Hee eliminated Indonesians Rossianna Tendeau

goal but Al-Shehrani was ruled offside after scoring with a rasping shot.

Kuwait launched two quick attacks and in the 67th minute Al-Hasawi neatly turned the ball home with the outside of his boot from a Khaled Al Sharidah cross to make it 2-1.

Midfielder Youssef Thuanyan made it 2-2 with 10 minutes of normal time left, swerving his shot from 10 metres past Kuwait goalkeeper Khaled Shammari, finishing off a counter attack that started deep inside the Saudi half of the field.

Earlier, two second half goals by Choi Soon-Ho and a goal in each period by Cho Kwang-Rae and second half substitute Lee Tae-Ho gave hosts South Korea an overwhelming 4-0 victory over Indonesia in the other semifinal.

The hosts delighted the 40,000 crowd with crisp passing, powerful shooting and a haul of well-taken goals.

Choi Soon-Ho — with two — Cho Kwang-Rae and second half substitute Lee Tae-Ho were the goalscorers in a side well served by Mexico World Cup Captain Park Chang-Sun and new striking star Kim Joo-Sung.

The Indonesians were rarely in the match and as expected after their scrappy quarter-final against the United Arab Emirates, which they won on penalties — lacked decisiveness in defence and firepower in attack.

Cho Kwang-Rae started the rout in the 28th minute, cracking a first time right foot shot from the edge of the penalty area inside goalkeeper Ponirir Neka's left-hand post from a pass by Kim Sam-Soo.

After a slow start in their first match in Seoul after playing preliminaries and the quarter-final against Iran in Pusan, the South Koreans found their rhythm, stringing together slick passing combinations.



Al Faisali soccer team captain Ibrahim Mustafa (10) misses header in front of net while Al Arabi goalie, Riad Talafha, dives to stop the ball from going in net, in Friday's Jordan Cup soccer action (Photo by Abu Saman)

Al Arabi upsets Al Faisali in Jordan Cup

By Fred Donovan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In an exciting soccer match at the Al Hussein Sports City, Al Arabi upset favoured Al Faisali in the semifinals of the Jordan Cup competition on Friday.

The final score, 8-7, resulted after a five penalty-shot period and an additional trade-off, penalty-shot period.

The score at the end of the two halves was tied at 1-1, even though Al Faisali dominated much of the action. In the first minute of play, Al Arabi had a chance to score with a direct shot on net, but the Al Faisali goalie, Milad Abbasi, made an excellent stop.

For the rest of the half, Al Faisali succeeded in keeping the pressure on, missing a number of opportunities to score. In the 32nd minute of the first half, Khalid Awad of Faisali passed a ball to Imad Musalem near the goal post who missed that golden opportunity to net.

The scoring, however, did not come until the second half. Although Al Faisali came out for the second half with confidence to take lead, putting constant pressure at the opening minutes, it was Al Arabi who scored first. In the 15th minute of the second

half, Mohammad Hussein headed a crossing shot into the goal passed a diving Milad. It did not take Al Faisali long to reciprocate. In the 20th minute, Al Faisali was awarded a direct penalty kick, which goalie Milad drilled by a helpless Riad Talafha, Al Arabi goalie.

The second half ended in a 1-1 tie, which prompted them to play extra time. In the five penalty-shot period, Riad made a superb stop on the first Al Faisali penalty shot of Ibrahim Mustafa. The two teams traded goals until the last kick of Al Arabi. Needing the goal to win, Al Arabi's Hani Yasser shot the ball for the right hand lower corner. But, Milad made a diving stop, deflecting the ball into the post and out of the net.

With the score tied 5-5, Al Arabi and Al Faisali traded goals, each team scoring twice. Then, Riad made a diving save on Al Faisali's Sami Said. Leaping in the air and then running around the field, Riad indicated that he wanted to make the next shot for Al Arabi. But the coach waved him off, and Al Arabi's Akel Tamimi drove the ball past Milad for the winning score.

Al Arabi will not face Al Jazira, who defeated Al Ahli 1-0 in the other semifinal match on Thursday, for the finals of the Jordan Cup competition.

Bauer leads in Irish cycling

LIMERICK, Ireland (AP) — Steve Bauer of Canada overcame three punctures to take the overall lead in the Irish Nissan Classic Cycle Race Thursday after winning the second stage of 160 kilometres from Galway to Limerick. Bauer, 27, from Fenwick, Ontario, broke away from the main pack less than one mile from the city centre finish.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Real Madrid to meet Juventus

ZURICH (R) — Real Madrid and Juventus were drawn to meet in the outstanding tie of the second round of the Champions' Cup when the draw for all three European club soccer competitions was made here Friday. The Spanish champions, who have won the UEFA Cup for the last two seasons, and the Italian League leaders — two of the long-serving aristocrats of European soccer — could be excused for cursing their luck.

Palmer reappointed head of BOA

LONDON (AP) — Dick Palmer has been reappointed as the British Olympic Association's general secretary, a post he officially left earlier this year to work for the International Olympic Committee. He also retains his IOC post, and British Olympic officials said they hoped to find a replacement for Palmer as the association's chief executive before the next Olympics in 1988.

Baseball comes to Soviet Union

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union's governing sports body has decided to introduce baseball into the country, possibly with the help of Cuban and Nicaraguan advisers, TASS News Agency said. Students from two Moscow universities will play the first official baseball game in the Soviet capital next Tuesday — Constitution Day, a national holiday.

India takes 2-1 lead

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — India pulled a penultimate-over victory over Australia in the fourth one-day cricket international on Thursday and took a 2-1 lead in the series. The Indian hero was one-down batsman Raman Lamba whose hurricane knock of 74 in 67 balls won him the "man of the match" award.

Australia leads U.S. in Davis Cup tennis

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Paul McNamee rallied to defeat Brad Gilbert 2-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-0, 6-1 Friday and give Australia a 1-0 lead over the United States in their Davis Cup tennis semifinal at Milton Courts.

Tim Mayotte faced Australia's Pat Cash in the second singles match Friday in the best-of-five semifinals, but rain stopped play in the second set and officials said the match would be concluded Saturday morning.

Mayotte led 5-3 in the first set when rain caused a 50-minute delay. The American won the set 6-4 but trailed in the second set 2-1 when the rain resumed and cancelled play for the day.

Paul Amacone and Ken Flach are scheduled to face Cash and John Fitzgerald in the doubles Saturday with the reverse singles slated for Sunday.

The winner of the tie will play either defending champion Sweden or Czechoslovakia in the final in December.

Gilbert appeared to be in control during the third set, but the 31-year-old Australian played nearly flawless tennis in the final two sets, serving and volleying with tremendous skill, while defusing Gilbert's serve.

McNamee reeled off 11 straight games after the 10-minute break following the third set.

The result made a mockery of the world computer rankings. Gilbert, from Piedmont, California, is ranked 12th in the world, while McNamee is ranked 42nd.

McNamee revelled playing on familiar grass courts in front of a fiercely partisan crowd.

Gilbert, playing only his third Davis Cup, collapsed under the relentless late onslaught from the Australian, a two-time Wimbledon doubles champion and a seven-time Davis Cup

member. Gilbert's confident percentage play degenerated to desperation play as McNamee's confidence grew.

"I played so bad in the last two sets I felt embarrassed," Gilbert said.

"I just couldn't do anything to stop his momentum. He played really well. He was a completely different player after the break. He raised his game 100 per cent, while I did things that got me in trouble."

"The loss is one of the biggest disappointments of my career. I can't remember the last time I lost a set 6-0."

The match lasted two hours 25 minutes with Gilbert getting off to a great start in taking the first set in just 28 minutes, succeeding with 69 per cent of his first serves, while McNamee was successful with only 30 per cent.

McNamee struck back in the second set but Gilbert gained the ascendancy in the third, winning a set in which there were five service breaks with decisive ace.

McNamee was really fired up after the regulation 10 minute break. He raced to a 2-0 lead and then saved three breakback points in the third game.

Gilbert eventually lost the game and his spirit and fire gradually drained away.

McNamee served much better in the final two sets, while 25-year-old Gilbert found his previously impressive second serve less effective.

"I reached up a bit more on my first serve and put in a few kicking second serves and he didn't seem to handle it so well," McNamee said.

"I was grateful to be just two sets to one down. I knew I hadn't played the tennis I was capable of. Once I got on a roll I was confident I could win it."

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PANTOMIME

The Amman Players will be presenting their annual Christmas Pantomime in mid-December. Anyone who is interested in acting or helping backstage (sets, costumes, stage crew etc.) is invited to attend a reading/audition at the HAYA ARTS CENTRE, Shmeisani (opposite "Kentucky Fried Chicken") on SUNDAY OCTOBER 5th at 7:30 p.m.

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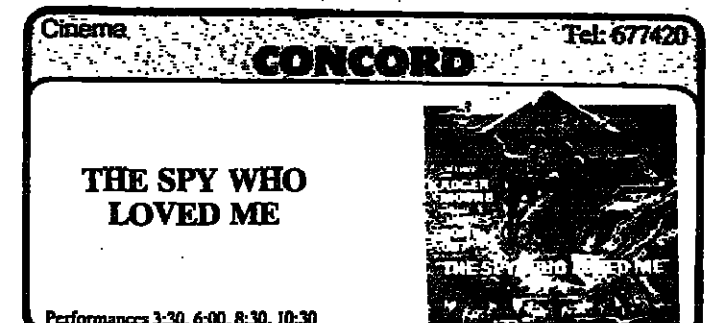
THE LOTTERY DATE: SATURDAY,
4th OF OCTOBER 86

TILL WE MEET AGAIN NEXT SAT.
WITH A NEW LOTTERY WORTH
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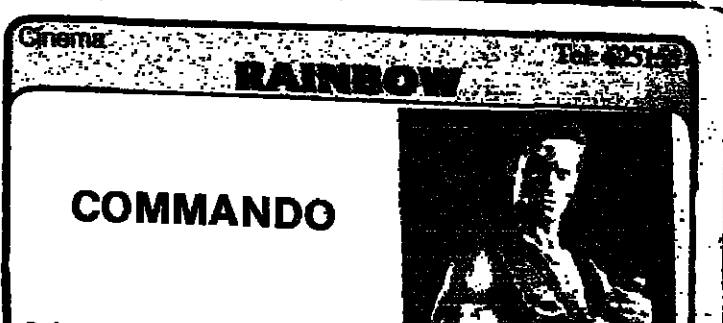
WHEELS ON MEALS

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45



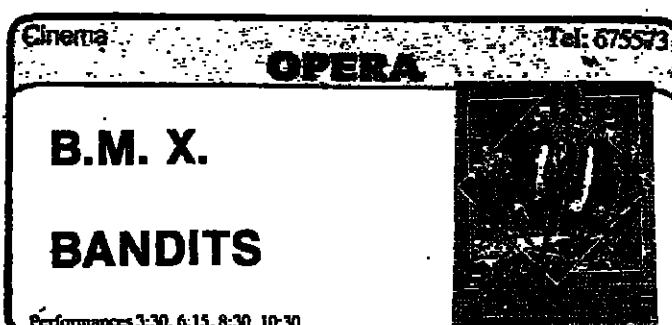
THE SPY WHO LOVED ME

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30



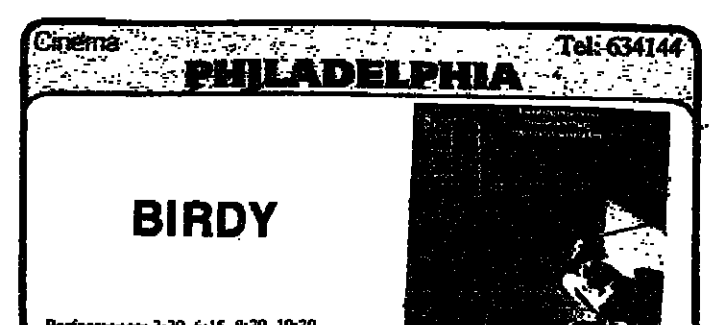
COMMANDO

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



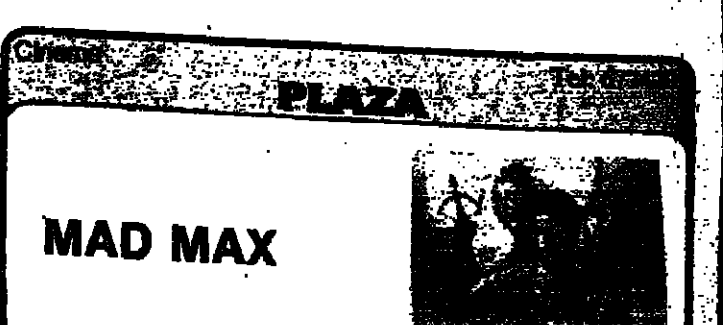
B.M.X. BANDITS

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30



BIRDY

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30



MAD MAX

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4385/95	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3865/70	Canadian dollars
	2.0055/65	West German marks
	2.2670/80	Dutch guilders
	1.6260/70	Swiss francs
	41.60/65	Belgian francs
	6.5770/800	French francs
	1389/1390	Italian lire
	154.30/40	Japanese yen
	6.8675/8725	Swedish crowns
	7.3300/50	Norwegian crowns
	7.5750/5800	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	437.00/437.75	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed above their lows, lifted by Wall Street's higher opening on U.S. economic data. But dealers said nervousness persists over U.K. interest rates, with the pound's recent declines and higher money market rates indicating a rise in base rates might be necessary soon.

By 1430 Friday the FTSE 100 index was down 9.8 to 1,563.3 after a low of 1,559.0 earlier in the session.

Operators remained wary of an imminent rise in base rates despite another signal from the Bank of England Friday that it wishes to see them remain at around 10 per cent. Press reports here Friday suggested base rates might soon have to rise to 13 per cent.

Government bonds ended at around their highs on the day, showing gains of up to 3/4 point. Dealers said technical futures buying earlier in the session helped gilts stay around their highs, despite late news the Bank of England issued £600 million of new bonds in tranches existing stocks.

Earlier news that sterling slipped to another trade weighted low had little impact as gilts were underpinned by the higher opening on U.S. credit markets, dealers added.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, OCT. 4, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day is the best time to accomplish whatever is of importance to you. Put your best efforts into your creative ideas and maintain your poise.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you change your ways with outside partners early, they can be of real help to you, but don't argue.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to have more harmony at your job. Avoid a newcomer who likes to argue too much.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) There could suddenly be some strange situation this morning, so be on the alert. Don't lose your temper.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Handle vital affairs. Not the right time to invite fastidious friends in. Postpone this for later.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Do that shopping you have in mind, especially for whatever is artistic or very fine. Be wise and drive carefully.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Do not make any repairs to your property or later you may have to do them again. Plan them more carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 22) You want to change old friends for the new, but reconsider this carefully. At least wait awhile.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan what to do to rid yourself of some restriction. Your mate may be upset but don't let this bother you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you made plans to do something today, get an early start on it or later it could be negated.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Take care not to do anything that spoils the fine reputation you have been carefully building.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get some new plan to work that is appealing to you and then decide what revisions have to be made.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Rid yourself of obligations that are pressing and later you can do what appeals to you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be most happy and successful, so give a fine education and allow many advantages. Test the ability to handle the challenges and be successful with them. An interesting life here with many experiences encountered during the lifetime.

THE Daily Crossword

by William Canine

ACROSS

1. Headline
5. Difficult situation
9. Pale yellow
14. Draft animals
15. Maleservant
16. A Ford
17. Bit of old hat
19. Role player
20. Intersecting
21. Franciscan monk
22. Possessive
24. Certificate
26. Cotton thread
28. Polish revolutionary
33. Buffer with novel or real
34. Swiss
36. Famed blind
37. Sarcasitic comment
39. Jonathan e.g.
41. Tansie
42. WWII hero
44. Lubricator
46. Neighbor
47. of Ida
48. Cheese cheese
49. Lady
51. Miscellaneous subject
52. Robert of TV
53. Johnny-comedy
57. Great
58. School
61. Pupa
64. Punctured
66. Out of 25
68. Whining
69. Battering
70. Big
71. Neighbor

DOWN

1. Traps
2. Start
3. Georgia
4. Involve
5. Billion
6. She's cousin
7. Melancholy
8. Clap
9. Main dish
10. Principal
11. Toward
12. Jerusalem hill
13. Most peculiar
18. Doctor
22. Buffalo head
24. Gambol
25. Calm
26. Spanish imperfectly
27. Followers of Muhammad
28. Mac
30. Describing certain film
31. Mombasa's land
32. Sky diver
35. At will
36. School org.
40. In situation
43. Conductor
45. Eddy
48. Off the beaten path
50. Verdi's Moor
53. The Camonde's home state
54. — dieu
55. Eleanor's mother-in-law
56. On a leash
57. Sidekick
58. Muzzle
59. Foremilitary
60. High note
63. Big —

Iran rations petrol

TEHRAN (R) — Petrol was rationed in Iran Friday to safeguard the country's strategic reserves, Tehran Radio announced.

It quoted Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh as saying the rationing would cut Iran's daily petrol consumption by a quarter to 15-16 million litres (3.7-4 million gallons) from 22 million litres (5.5 million gallons).

Mr. Aqazadeh said the ration was temporary and was put into effect "in view of the need for economising and safeguarding the strategic reserves."

People started queuing at filling stations Wednesday and Thursday after rumours of the impending rationing swept Tehran, with lines reaching two kilometres at some stations.

Announcements on the radio told people of the hazards of stocking petrol at home.

Iran, the second biggest oil producer in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), has lost some of its oil refining capacity in the course of the Gulf war with Iraq.

Its giant 600,000 barrels-per-day refinery at Abadan, on the border with Iraq, was put out of action soon after the outbreak of the war in September 1980, forcing Iran to import refined products.

Refineries in Esfahan, Tabriz and Tehran, as well as oil production units and pumping stations in the oil-rich Khuzestan province, have also been targets of Iraqi air raid in the past year.

Mr. Aqazadeh said private cars with low fuel consumption would get at least 40 litres (10 gallons) and other cars at least 60 litres (15 gallons) of petrol per month. Taxis and other service vehicles would get more.

There will be no change in prices — 40 cents per litre (\$1.40 per gallon) for regular and 52 cents per litre (\$1.85 per gallon) for premium.

Iran last imposed petrol rationing for just over two years at the beginning of the Gulf war.

Cash crisis hits OIC

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) cannot pay its staff or meet its day-to-day expenses because a large number of the 46 members have not paid their dues, its top officials reported Thursday.

The organisation, therefore, is in a worse state financially even than the United Nations, which is said to face the prospect of payless pay days by year's end if its financial problems remain unresolved.

Addressing a closed-door meeting here of foreign ministers of members of the Islamic body, Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada said the OIC and its

affiliated organisations were all affected by the cash shortage.

"Unfortunately," he said, "a large number of member states have consistently not paid their mandatory contributions to the organisation. The situation has reached a stage where the Organisation of the Islamic Conference has no resources to pay the salaries of its staff or to meet its day-to-day expenses."

"The situation of uncertainty created as a result of the financial crisis is bound to be reflected in the functioning of the organisation and reduces its ability to carry out the functions assigned to it," he added.

Cocoa pact goes ahead

LONDON (R) — Cocoa producing and importing nations have now signed a new pact to stabilise the price in numbers sufficient to suggest it will be able to take effect, according to reports by the International Cocoa Organisation (ICO).

A spokesman of the intergovernmental group said Thursday East Germany signed Thursday night just within a deadline. That means enough members accept the accord, subject to lengthy ratification procedures, for it to take effect — good news for Third World sellers of cocoa.

A previous pact expired on Tuesday. Importers and exporters have agreed on a four-month transition period to give time for at least provisional ratification by signatories of the new one.

The ICO's 60 producer and consumer members have edged toward ratifying the pact since it was negotiated in July.

The negotiations, in Geneva, were saved from collapse when the Ivory Coast, the biggest producer, decided to join. It did not enter the now-expired accord, saying it preferred to leave the price to market forces.

Failure to agree a new pact would have hit the economies of the producers. Prices hit their lowest since 1983 in June after

two years of surplus and amid doubts over prospects for a new agreement. The average price as issued by the ICO was then 84.75 cents a pound against 95.21 cents Thursday.

Arrangements have been made to keep buffer stock provisions under the lapsed accord in place for the four-month transition, although they are at present suspended.

The buffer stock — which purchases cocoa from the free market when prices fall and releases cocoa from stocks when they rise — was frozen in 1982, when it ran out of funds after buying 100,000 tonnes from the market to defend prices.

But ICO financial reserves, collected through levies on cocoa traded by members, have since risen to about \$230 million, enough to buy 100,000 tonnes at current prices.

Should it prove insufficient to keep prices up, a stock withholding scheme will take effect under which exporters will hold back up to 120,000 tonnes from the market.

A climate for negotiating a new pact that still relied chiefly on a buffer stock was not favourable after the collapse of the international tin agreement last October when its buffer stock ran out of funds, ICO delegates say.

Poor countries want more credit at less austere terms

WASHINGTON (AP) — Debtor countries say they have benefited little from economic policies imposed by lending nations, and they simply want more loans at less austere terms.

"Austerity for the sake of paying a few million dollars more makes no sense whatever for a country as poor as our own," Peruvian Finance Minister Luis Alva Castro said Thursday.

"In truth, there is nowhere to put the belt to tighten it."

Mr. Castro criticised the strings attached to International Monetary Fund (IMF) loans as the weeklong IMF-World Bank meeting wound to a close.

The session ends formally Saturday, but the business part of the conference ended Friday.

The meeting produced no new schemes for easing the economic plight of developing countries. It saw rich nations in sharp disagreement over interest and exchange rates.

Peru was cut off last year from further IMF borrowing when it declared it would limit its payments on its debt to no more than 10 per cent of its export earnings.

IMF loans are conditioned on economic austerity programmes in the recipient countries — programmes that many developing nations have pronounced hard to swallow.

Paying back such loans "with the hunger of our people is not only unacceptable from a moral standpoint but it is absolutely impossible given the degree of deterioration in their standard of living," the Peruvian official said.

"It simply happens that Peru's current capacity to pay is virtually zero, if not negative," Mr. Castro added.

Poland, which rejoined the IMF this year after a 36-year hiatus, said it too is unable to find sources of new credit.

"We have a lot of problems to solve," said Polish Finance Minister Bazyli Samojlik.

He said Poland has yet to receive additional loans to ease its huge debt — either from official organisations like the IMF or from commercial banks. "We don't have access to new credit," Mr. Samojlik said.

He said a ban by Western Europe on produce from Poland because of contamination from last spring's Chernobyl nuclear accident in the Soviet Union has cost Poland \$60 million in lost revenue.

Poland's economy is still staggering from recently lifted U.S. economic sanctions, he said.

Another Warsaw pact nation, Romania, called for a complete forgiveness of debt by banks and by international lending institutions for the poorest of nations, and a ceiling of debt payments for slightly better-off developing countries of no more than 10 per cent of export earnings.

Mr. Manuel Esquivel, prime minister of Belize, said programmes of the IMF and the World Bank seem geared more to populous developing nations.

Yet, his tiny Central American nation is in just as much need of assistance, he said.

"(They) pay insufficient attention to the peculiar circumstances and situation of their very small members, and this leads to prescriptions which do not watch our ailments," Mr. Esquivel said.

Yugoslavia's finance secretary said Thursday that poor countries hope to make progress by borrowing but have found themselves in more trouble instead.

Though he represents a Communist government, Mr. Svetozar Rikanovic emphasised the importance of what he called the sustained economic growth of the world as a whole.

"The interdependence of national economies obliges all of us to jointly and more efficiently remove obstacles impeding a stable and lasting growth," he said.

Mr. Rikanovic said poor countries have not always used the money they borrowed in rational ways, but added that they have often faced barriers in selling their goods to the countries they borrowed from and have had trouble getting hold of new processes.

Though he did not say so, he appeared to be implying that these difficulties prevented them from earning the money needed to keep up payments on their debt.

The debt crisis can not be solved just by keeping up payments, he said.

"The response to the debt crisis can be just one: Efficient development of highly indebted countries," he said. "It is encouraging that there is wide agreement on this issue."

He added that more money is needed for both the bank and the fund, and what he called adequate commitments from commercial banks.

Mr. Javid Vahaji, president of the Central Bank of Iran, blamed the entire debt problem of developing nations on their "ill-conceived dependency on economic policies and developments of major industrial countries."

"It is evident that the developments in the foreign-exchange markets during the last five years have turned these markets into a monstrous engine of universal financial instability," he said.

Sri Lanka's Finance Minister Ronnie De Mel said: "The easy prescription of adjustment and more adjustment by developing countries ignores the fact that it is the developing world" that has done the most belt-tightening.

The poor countries "have depreciated their currencies, reduced their fiscal deficits, tightened their monetary policies, and reduced their balance of payments deficits, but where has it

taken them so far?" Mr. De Mel asked.

"Every time we see a better tomorrow we are confronted with unbearable deterioration in our terms of trade or difficulties expanding our exports because of protectionism," he said.

"When we come to the fund and the bank for assistance... we are confronted with a thick blank wall of higher conditionality (screening), fund-bank cross-conditionality, inadequate resources and tighter and higher repayment terms," Mr. De Mel said.

To help poor countries generate growth and reverse a current net outflow of their resources to richer nations, he said, there must be "an appropriate balance between stabilisation and liberalisation policies... procedures will have to be greatly simplified and the negotiating process speeded up."

Mr. De Mel said his experience in a decade as a governor of the two institutions, where policies are guided by the richer members, has been that "we seem to be fighting fires here and there, not realising that what we face is a potential global conflagration... we meet twice a year, undertake some patchwork and depart, hoping for some world recovery."

Other Third World countries have voiced similar complaints the past week. They said screening for World Bank loans and IMF support is too rigid to permit growth-oriented programme and reverse the outflow of assets to richer nations.

Most speakers also called for increased world bank financing and a new issue of IMF Special Drawing Rights, measures recommended by the monetary organs' staffs but opposed for the time being by the United States and some other advanced countries.

Mr. Panas Simasathien, permanent secretary of the Thai finance ministry, said: "Most of the members shy away from turning to the IMF for financial assistance at the early stage of their problems, thus making it more complicated... to cure the subsequently serious case." He said this is because of strict conditions on fund support.

Earlier Norway and Sweden, in speeches on behalf of the Nordic countries, asked Japan and unnamed European nations to complement U.S. budget-cutting

efforts with economic growth at home. Australian Treasurer Paul Keating made his appeal specifically to West Germany as well as Japan.

All were regarded as backing U.S. efforts to persuade Japan and West Germany, countries with fat balance-of-payment surpluses, to lower interest rates further as a stimulant to growth.

The Nordic countries are Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

"A lower budget deficit in the United States is a necessary and crucial element in the overall adjustment process," Swedish Finance Minister Kjell-Olof Felth said.

But if this is met "with an exceedingly cautious policy in Japan and major European countries... well, then it is difficult to see how a deflationary bias can be avoided," he added. "We therefore continue to argue that Europe and Japan must be asked to contribute more to world economic growth."

Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund, like Mr. Felth, World Bank governor, said "better coordination of economic policies among the pace-setting countries is urgently needed... Europe and Japan could contribute more to global growth."

The Japanese and West Germans were described as reluctant to fuel domestic inflation. Speakers urged them to consider the plight of debt-ridden poor nations whose exports are stagnating for lack of growth-produced demand in industrial countries.

This has reached a critical level for some of the poorest countries, demanding attention from the international community, including possible debt-relief measures, Mr. Frydenlund said.

"Many developing countries have undertaken strenuous efforts to reorient their economies" and the World Bank is helping, but "commercial banks are lagging behind, and their share of net financial flows has been drastically reduced," he said.

The Nordic countries also are concerned that harsh economic adjustments could threaten social or political destabilisation in the poorest countries, the Norwegian foreign minister said.

While "sustained economic development requires a dynamic private sector, an efficient public sector is usually a precondition," he said, adding that "no particular form of ownership" is a universal key to growth.

Naira declines further

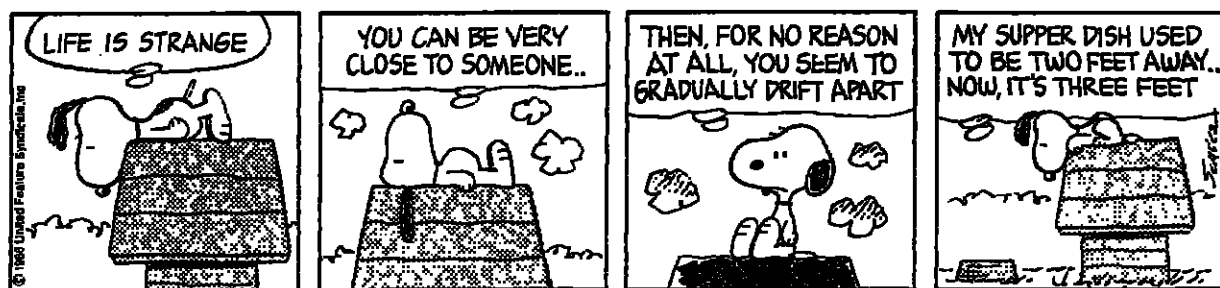
LAGOS (R) — The Nigerian naira fell a further 8.72 per cent against the dollar at Thursday's weekly currency auction to a rate which central bank officials described as artificial and unrealistic.

At the first auction last week, the naira fell by more than 66 per cent compared with the previous official rate. Almost all foreign transactions are now covered by the new, floating exchange rate.

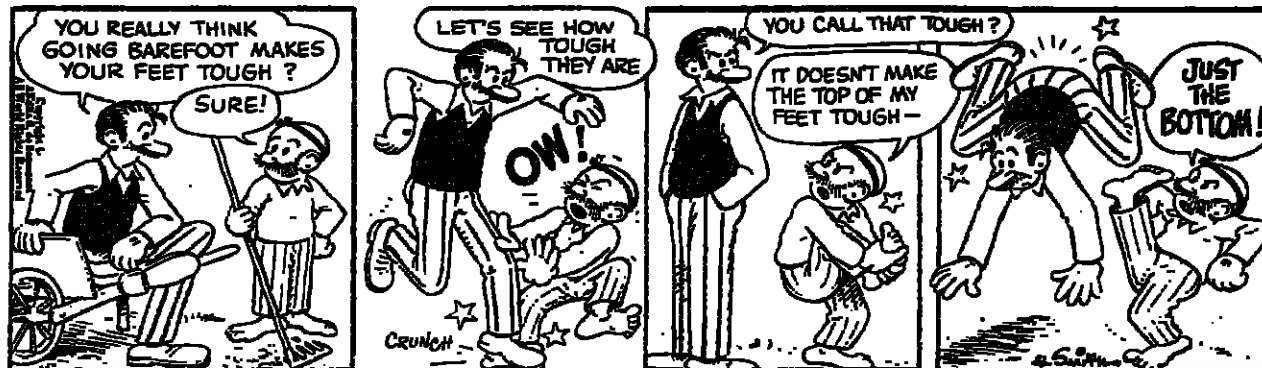
Central bank deputy governor, Mr. Amusa Oti, unhappy at high bidding by banks at the auction, accused them of speculation and submitting bids that were not realistic.

Penalties were "very likely" to be imposed to discourage high bidding, he said, although he did not say what measures would be taken.

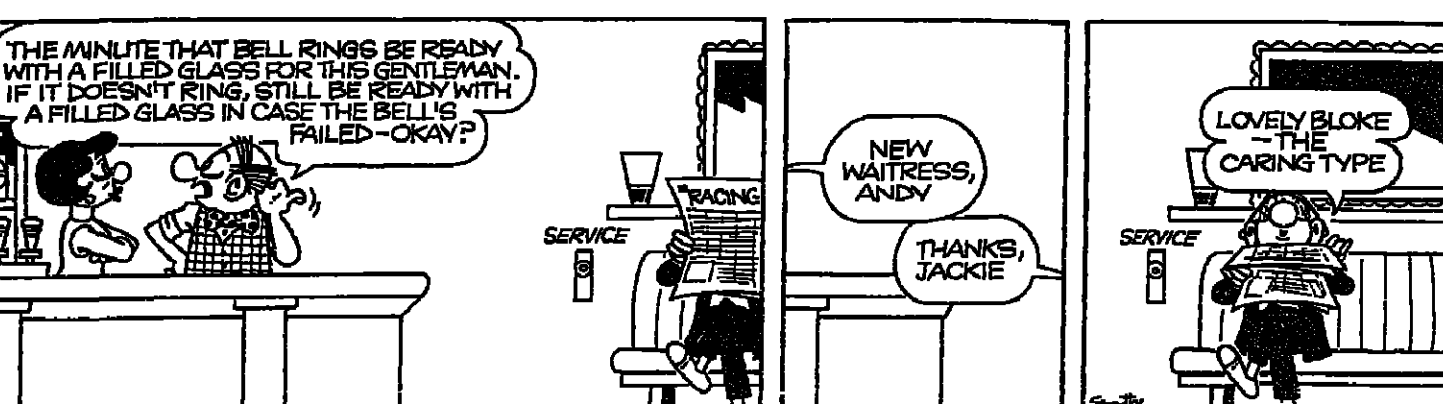
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff

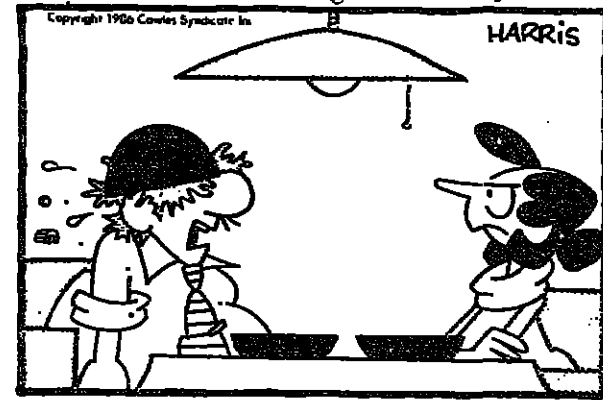


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

By Morris



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lea

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MYFIL

RECSS

GINOUT

HAWRTT

ON A BLIND DATE HE WAS EXPECTING A "VISION," BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WOMEN IDIOM GHETTO JOSTLE
Answer: He lies in wait for a fish, and after catching it he does this — LIES IN WEIGHT

Gorbachev warns U.S. that 'Star Wars' is step to war

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev warned the United States Friday that its space weapons programme was a step to war and said his purpose in meeting President Reagan in Iceland was to reduce the threat of conflict.

Speaking at a public ceremony in Moscow, Mr. Gorbachev said the Soviet Union and the United States shared a common objective in accelerating progress at the superpower talks in Geneva on space weapons and strategic and medium-range nuclear missiles.

Mr. Gorbachev was speaking eight days before he meets Mr. Reagan in the Icelandic capital of Reykjavik for an encounter that both countries have billed as a meeting to prepare for a future summit in the United States.

"Nowadays our duty is to caution the world public: The arms race makes the dividing line between peace and war ever thinner," the Kremlin leader said, in his first comments on the Iceland meeting since it was announced on Sept. 30.

"And we do not stop repeating: The militarisation of outer space is a step to war. We are calling for an end to nuclear tests and for starting to reduce stocks of nuclear weapons in earnest and on a large scale," Mr. Gorbachev added.

The Soviet leadership regards the Reagan administration's plans for a space-based anti-missile defence as dangerously destabilising and has said it has

said it is the principal obstacle to far-reaching arms control agreement.

The plans are formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) and popularly as "Star Wars". The Kremlin has accepted the principle of research into space weapons but adamantly opposes deployment.

Mr. Gorbachev, whose remarks were published by the Soviet News Agency TASS, said the Soviet Union would continue to seek political ways of reducing the threat of war.

"Our proposal to Ronald Reagan to hold a working meeting, so to say, was prompted precisely by these considerations," Mr. Gorbachev said.

The meeting in Reykjavik is set for Oct. 11-12. Icelandic sources in Moscow said an advance party of 73 Soviet officials, including technicians and press officers, left the Soviet capital Thursday for Reykjavik.

"We have one and the same objective here: To start, at last, the realisation of our accords reached in Geneva with the president of the United States," Mr. Gorbachev said.

The two leaders agreed at their first summit in Geneva last November to inject new impetus into talks on space weapons, intercontinental nuclear missiles and medium-range nuclear forces which the superpowers are holding in the Swiss city.

Soviet officials, like their Western counterparts, have signalled out U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles in Europe as the most promising area for agreement.

Mr. Gorbachev was speaking at a ceremony at which a monument was unveiled to the pre-war German Communist Party leader Ernst Thälmann. The ceremony was attended by East Germany's party leader, Erich Honecker, who arrived Thursday in Moscow.

"Communists are convinced: A nuclear apocalypse is not a fatal inevitability. Mankind can avert the terrible threat which hangs over it," Mr. Gorbachev said.

Icelandic diplomats had no comment on reports that a Soviet ferryboat, the Georg Os, had been taken off its run from the Soviet Estonian port of Tallinn to Helsinki in order to take Soviet delegates to Iceland.

With accommodation facilities stretched in Iceland, some delegates travelling by sea could be expected to spend nights aboard their boat in Reykjavik Harbour.

Meanwhile in Mexico City, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said on arriving in

Mexico City Thursday night that this month's U.S.-Soviet talks in Iceland were of extreme importance.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who was greeted by Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda, responded briefly to reporters' questions after arriving from Ottawa on a three-day visit.

Asked about the Oct. 11-12 meeting in Iceland between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Shevardnadze replied: "It is of extreme importance."

The Soviet foreign minister was asked to comment on the disarmament efforts of the so-called "Group of Six" nations, which includes Mexico.

"We have complete mutual understanding with the Group of Six. The only job is to convince the United States to support us, although that is not an easy task," he said.

Asked whether, as recently rumoured, Mr. Gorbachev would visit Mexico, Mr. Shevardnadze replied: "It's very difficult to talk of precise dates, but if there exists the desire, it will be a reality."

Mr. Shevardnadze is due to leave Mexico on Sunday for Moscow.

In Ottawa, Mr. Shevardnadze expressed hope that progress in overall Soviet-U.S. relations would be achieved and said the Soviet presence in Afghanistan could be a topic at the Reykjavik talks.

Moscow hopeful on summit nuclear test ban agreement

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union believes there is a good chance Moscow and Washington can reach an outline accord at next week's summit in Iceland on moving towards a nuclear test ban, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Boris Pyadyshchev, of the ministry's Information Directorate, told a news conference that such an agreement could be easily achieved "if the political will is shown and the desire is there."

"As we see it, it is fully possible for the leaders at Reykjavik to give directions to work out an agreement on a complete cessation of nuclear testing," Mr. Pyadyshchev said.

President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev are due to meet in the Icelandic capital of Reykjavik on Oct. 11-12.

Mr. Pyadyshchev said: "We call on the United States to move forward together with us on this question and not to pull us backwards."

He was referring to the Reagan administration's decision not to join the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests which took effect on Aug. 6 last year.

Mr. Gorbachev, in a televised address last Aug. 18, extended the Soviet test freeze until the end of this year.

The United States has declined to join the moratorium on the grounds that tests are needed to maintain the U.S. nuclear deterrent and that problems of verification remain unresolved.

Mr. Pyadyshchev said: "For the Soviet Union, there is no problem of monitoring."

Moscow itself, he said, "would not sign any agreement which does not include serious verification measures."

Peking, Moscow to open 9th political talks Monday

PEKING (AP) — China and the Soviet Union will discuss the U.S.-Soviet summit and recent moves to end decades of bilateral acrimony when they meet Monday for their ninth round of political normalisation talks.

The two-day semiannual meeting comes less than a week before U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev are to meet in Iceland.

It also overlaps with the Oct. 7-11 visit to China by U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger.

"It's the first time officials from all three nations are coming together like this," said a Soviet official.

Although Mr. Weinberger will not attend China's talks with the Soviets, the official noted, "it provides an opportunity for all three sides to express their views."

China, a nuclear power, has avoided taking sides on the arms race issue, calling on both superpowers to reduce their nuclear and conventional weaponry.

The Chinese have opposed the space-based U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), or "Star Wars," and have demanded that

the Soviet Union remove its Asian arsenal of SS-20 rockets aimed at China and Japan.

The meeting is also the first following Mr. Gorbachev's July 28 speech in Vladivostok inviting China to discuss mutual troop reductions along the tense Sino-Soviet border as one means of ending decades of conflict and confrontation.

Chinese senior leader Deng Xiaoping responded in a September interview with the U.S. television network CBS that he was ready to go to the Soviet Union to meet Mr. Gorbachev if Moscow first acted to impel Vietnam to end its eight-year occupation of Kampuchea.

Kampuchea is the most important of what China calls the three obstacles to normalise ties with the Soviet Union. The other two are the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and Soviet troop deployment along the Sino-Soviet border.

China and Soviet Union split over ideological and strategic differences in 1960, shattering the concept of a monolithic Communist bloc and pitting the two neighbours as bitter rivals.

Translator for Canadian TV arrested in Moscow

TORONTO (AP) — Soviet police briefly detained a translator working for the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. in Moscow, and the CBC correspondent the woman was working for called the arrest an attempt to "set me up."

Michael McIvor, the correspondent, said in a telephone interview with CBC radio in Toronto that he received a phone call from a man asking to speak to him on the street.

McIvor, wary of the caller, refused to meet him on the street but told him to come to his office. Later, the translator accompanied the man out of the building, he said.

"As they were crossing the street, they were jumped by men who flashed red identification cards and claimed they were from the Criminal Investigation

Department," McIvor said.

The translator and the man were taken in a car to militia station, where the translator was questioned about McIvor's contact with the man. McIvor said one of the agents who questioned the translator asked, "haven't you heard about Daniloff?"

The unidentified translator was later released.

He said it appeared the Soviets were "trying to send a very serious message to the Western press corps that the Daniloff affair may be over but we still don't want you talking to anybody."

The KGB secret police on Aug. 30 arrested Nicholas Daniloff, an American reporter for U.S. News and World Report magazine, after a contact handed him a package that later turned out to contain documents marked secret.

Chirac takes Mitterrand's 'no' calmly

PARIS (R) — Gaullist Prime Minister Jacques Chirac appears to be taking in his stride Socialist President Francois Mitterrand's second refusal to sign a key government decree, this time to transform France's electoral map.

Unlike the high drama which followed Mr. Mitterrand's veto of a decentralisation decree last July, Mr. Chirac made no statement to the nation in reply to Mr. Mitterrand Thursday before flying off for a two-day visit to Morocco.

Instead his office said merely that the government would submit the plan as a bill to the cabinet and parliament as soon as possible.

The government did not want to get involved in a constitutional row, his office said.

Redrawing of electoral boundaries for the 577-seat National Assembly thus joins safeguards against media monopoly and the 1987 budget as major issues before the autumn session of parliament which opened Thursday.

Mr. Mitterrand's decision came as no surprise. It was taken after a week of reflection at a time when, in the president's words, "The French people have to rally together against terrorism."

Illustrative of this was the massive security operation

mounted at the Porte de Versailles Thursday when Mr. Mitterrand opened the Paris Motor Show.

Police and troops are patrolling France's borders and carrying out extensive checks in major cities to guard against any repetition of the wave of bombings which killed ten people and injured more than 160 in Paris last month.

The new electoral boundaries are part of a government plan already approved by parliament to bring back the old two-round majority voting system.

This would replace the one-off proportional system introduced by the Socialists for the March elections which they narrowly lost after five years in power.

For four months Interior Minister Charles Pasqua made change after change in an attempt to meet objections made by the Council of State, the nation's highest administrative body, and a committee of six "wise men."

It was the final version, claimed by the government to be fair and square, which was found unacceptable by Mr. Mitterrand.

As in the case of a measure to turn 65 key state undertakings over to private hands, he said parliament should rule on the issue.

"The Republican tradition"

was that members of the assembly themselves should decide how they should be elected, he said.

The government plan is condemned by the opposition Socialists and the Communists as well as by the extreme right wing National Front.

The Front won 35 seats in the March elections and their leader Jean-Marie Le Pen fears that the new system would practically wipe them out.

He has given notice he would join in a censure vote against the government on the plan.

But although Mr. Chirac has only a three-seat overall majority in parliament he does not seem to be in immediate danger and neither does the uneasy sharing of power between a left-wing president and a right-wing prime minister.

Some deputies among Mr. Chirac's UDF allies had feared they would lose their seats under the changed set-up but the dynamic Chirac appeared to have reassured them at a pre-parliamentary pep talk to members of both ruling parties at Vitel earlier this week.

"No panic" was the headline in the main television news on the Mitterrand decision Thursday night.

"Even the lowest of household servants would not accept such treatment," Mr. Vasak's letter said.

He also accused Mr. M'Bow of creating "an immense mess at UNESCO, which will have great difficulty in recovering from your 'reign' if it is able to do so. It's a mess that has made victims of many of my colleagues."

But you have inflicted special damage, perhaps mortal, to international cooperation because instead of trying to find what unifies, you have sought since 1981 a confrontational approach to problems," with "aggressive and irresponsible speeches that totally ignore the subject."

As an example, he cited Mr. M'Bow's support for the concept of "peoples' rights," which Western states have said they see as posing a danger to the concept of individual human rights.

Another former UNESCO staff member, Julian Behrstock, an American, said an article in a Paris newspaper Wednesday that Mr. M'Bow's re-election would sharpen the crisis at the organisation while choosing a replacement would regenerate the agency.

The Netherlands and Japan have indicated they might review their positions in the organisation unless reform at the organisation continues.

Senate backs return to democracy in Chile

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Senate Friday signalled strong support for a non-binding resolution favouring a peaceful return to democracy in Chile.

Working throughout the night to complete action on an omnibus spending bill for 1987, the Senate voted 92 to 0 not to kill the resolution, which was offered as an amendment.

Massachusetts Democrat Edward Kennedy, the sponsor, initially wanted the Senate to formally adopt the resolution.

But he withdrew it under threat of a filibuster from North Carolina Republican Jesse Helms and accepted the vote against killing the provision as an unofficial demonstration of Senate support.

"I believe the vote represents the feelings of the American people" in favour of a return to democracy in Chile, he told the Senate.

The resolution praises a national accord for the transition to full democracy as an important first step in the efforts of Chile's democratic forces toward a peaceful return to democratic government.

Announced on Aug. 25, 1985, the accord represents a commitment by 11 political parties in Chile to concrete steps in the peaceful evolution toward democracy.

The resolution had become something of a political football. It was approved a year ago in a 16-1 vote of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, with Sen. Helms the only one in opposition.

Since then, Sen. Helms has blocked Senate action on the measure.

For the others, firms with tens of millions of dollars invested in communications satellites, the alternatives were a year-long wait for a U.S. expendable rocket industry to get into production, or to buy launches on European, Chinese or Soviet carriers.

"Probably for the foreseeable future, the shuttle will continue to be the least costly access to space," NASA Administrator James C. Fletcher said this week.

"That's why everybody wants to be on the shuttle when we fly again."

"The current two-year hiatus in shuttle flights has resulted in the backlog of military, science and commercial payloads waiting to be launched," he said. "Each of these types of payloads has its own constituency. These interests have been converging on the White House in recent weeks and making their respective cases."

The satellite launching contracts were signed when the space agency envisioned 24 flights a year.

Meanwhile, the space agency announced it will continue testing its redesigned shuttle boosters in the same horizontal position as before the Challenger explosion, rejecting an investigative panel's suggestion to do it in the vertical position.

The commission headed by former Secretary of State William P. Rogers had suggested that vertical test stands be used for firings in "the exact flight configuration."

Former adviser accuses UNESCO chief of waging war

PARIS (AP) — The legal adviser of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has resigned and accused Director-General Amadou Mahtar M'Bow of waging a private battle against the United States and Britain.

In a letter to Mr. M'Bow dated Sept. 30 and made available to news media, legal adviser Karel Vasak also said Mr. M'Bow had created a mess at the 159-nation Paris-based agency from which it might never recover.

Mr. Vasak made the charges as the governing executive board of the UNESCO was moving toward the end of its autumn session.

On Wednesday, the 50-nation board called on member states to recommend a possible successor to Mr. M'Bow, the Senegalese who has headed the agency for the past 12 years.

Mr. M'Bow's second term of office expires late next year and he has not said whether he will seek a third six-year term. African and Arab nations have already encouraged him to do so.

The board will consider nominations for a new director-general at its meeting next May, before recommending a candidate to the General Conference, the organisation's highest decision making body,

which meets in October 1987.

Mr. M'Bow has been criticised by member states and former staff members of leading the organisation into the worst crisis since its founding 40 years ago.

The United States withdrew from the organisation at the end of 1984 and Britain left last Dec. 31.

Both nations said that under Mr. M'Bow's leadership UNESCO had become too politicised, adopted programmes with an anti-Western bias and spent too much.

Mr. Vasak, a Frenchman, was fired from his job as legal adviser in January 1985 and transferred to the head of the copyright section.

He had advised Mr. M'Bow that the United States was not liable for its financial contribution for 1985 because it had left the organisation in the middle of a two-year budget period.

Mr. M'Bow sought the opinion of other legal experts and then recommended that the organisation seek an opinion on the issue from the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

The United States, which provided a quarter of UNESCO's budget, maintains it does not have to pay for 1985 because it left the agency after giving the required year's notice.

At a board meeting last fall Mr. M'Bow also proposed that Britain

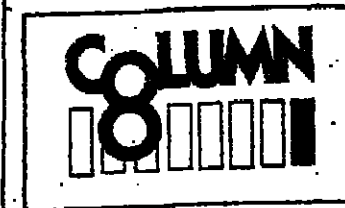
lose its position as official auditor of UNESCO's books because it had left the organisation.

Mr. Vasak's letter said he was leaving the organisation voluntarily and was not benefiting from any of the special incentives offered to employees as part of staff reductions made necessary by the loss of the U.S. and British contributions to the budget.

"I fired me in January 1985 essentially because, engaged in a private war against the United States (now against the United Kingdom and tomorrow who knows), you could not accept my views on the U.S. payment for 1985," the letter said.

"Since my dismissal," Mr. Vasak's letter said, "You have submitted me to treatment" that the head of a major division should not receive, "consisting of constant pressure by renewing my contract for only three months at a time and even then a month after the previous contract had expired."

Informants at the organisation said Mr. M'Bow had used this contract tactic in the past with senior staff officials, notably former spokesman Gerard Bolla, to command loyalty to his policies.



Top Israeli army officers fired for sexual harassment

TEL AVIV (AP) — Several high-ranking army officers were fired from the armed forces because they sexually harassed women soldiers under their commands, the commander of the army's women's corp was quoted as saying Thursday.

"After receiving complaints, a number of senior officers are no longer in the army," Brig.-Gen. Amira Dotan was quoted as saying in the Yediot Ahronot and Davar dailies. She did not say how many officers had been fired, or when. The army spokesman's office refused comment on Dotan's comments.

Speaking at a high school principals in Beersheba, Dotan, the highest-ranking woman in the army, said that while women make up one-third of the 170,000-member standing army, it is male-oriented.

"Unfortunately we live in a country and a society where most males have a macho personality," Dotan said. But she praised the army for its willingness to fire officers who sexually harassed women soldiers, the newspapers said.

"We have one and the same objective here: To start, at last, the realisation of our accords reached in Geneva with the president of the United States," Mr. Gorbachev said.

Meanwhile in Mexico City, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said on arriving in

Husband of Geraldine Ferraro indicted

NEW YORK (AP) — The husband of the first woman to run for the U.S. vice presidency has been indicted following a bribery investigation linked to the awarding of cable television contracts, a source familiar with the case has said.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, did not specify the charge against John Zaccaro, a New York City businessman and husband of 1984 vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro. The indictment was sealed when it was handed up by a grand jury in state supreme court in the borough of Queens after an appeals court lifted temporary bans against the indictment.

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Filipino rebel to be arraigned on Oct. 14

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A judge scheduled an Oct. 14 arraignment for a captured Communist guerrilla leader and said Friday he wants to conduct a speedy trial of the case.

Rebel leader Rodolfo Salas, his wife and a bodyguard were indicted Thursday on rebellion charges. Other rebels have said the case could jeopardise a proposed cease-fire.

Judge Procorio Donato of the Manila regional trial court scheduled the arraignment as lawyers for Salas asked the supreme court to order his release, arguing the rebel leader and his companions were arrested illegally.

The lawyers claimed in their petition that Salas was a member of the Communist panel negotiating peace with the government and should have been

issued a safe-conduct pass instead of being arrested.

"It is a lamentable commentary upon our times that persons who have answered the sincere call of President (Corazon) Aquino to come out and dialogue with her representatives to try and bring about lasting peace... are arrested by the military," the petition said.

Government negotiator Ramon Mitra and other officials have said Salas was never identified by Communist negotiators as part of their panel and that why the government did not issue a safe-conduct pass.

Salas, variously described by the government as chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines and commander of the rebel New People's Army (NPA), his wife Josefina Cruz and bodyguard Jose Concepcion were

arrested Monday outside a downtown Manila hospital where Salas had gone for a post-surgery checkup.

The Communist-led National Democratic Front, which has handled peace negotiations, protested the arrests, saying they endangered efforts to negotiate an end to the country's 17-year insurgency.